

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LXV.]

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BIRTHS.

On March 10th, at Shanghai, the wife of J. DIETRICH, of a son.

On March 11th, at Shanghai, the wife of JAMES STARK, of a daughter.

On March 13th, at Shanghai, the wife of NOEL B. RAMSAY, of a son.

On March 15, at Shanghai, the wife of F. C. ARMISTEAD, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On March 17th, at St. Peter's Church, Hongkong, by the Rev. J. H. France, M.A., W. J. HEWETT, of the Imperial Maritime Customs, to MAUD BEATRICE HAMILTON, of Hongkong.

On March 10th, at Shanghai, EDWARD, EZRA eldest son of the late Isaac Ezra of Shanghai, to MOZELLE, eldest daughter of M. A. SOPHER, Shanghai.

On March 16th, at Shanghai, CHARLES HERBERT PHILPOTT HAY, to FLORENCE ETHEL BRIGHTEN.

DEATHS.

On March 11th, at Shanghai, SUSAN PEARSON, daughter of George and Susan Pearson, aged 12 years and 11 months.

On March 16th, at Shanghai, WILLIAM JOHN BLAYLOCK CARTER, aged 39 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD C.L.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of 22nd February arrived, per the ss. *Delta*, on Friday, the 23rd instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

A dispatch to the *Asahi* states that a Korean, has been sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment by the Japanese Consular Court at Tientsin on a charge of gambling. This is the first sentence upon a Korean by a Japanese Court in China.

At the Supreme Court on Mar. 20 before the Puisne Judge, F. Blunck sued Long Hing for \$570. Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the plaintiff, but defendant did not enter an appearance. It appeared that defendant took the shop in Queen's Road from plaintiff on certain conditions which included monthly payments of \$114. Five of the instalments had not been paid. Judgment was given for plaintiff.

Henry Allison, seaman, was committed to ten years' imprisonment with hard labour on Tuesday for an unnatural offence. Arthur Hartley, seaman, a younger man, his accomplice, was sentenced to three years' hard labour. Sir Francis Piggott tried the case, with Messrs. A. Ellis, F. Kerchloff, La Clair, F. Campbell, J. Peacock, A. R. F. Raven, Geo. Duncan and G. H. Edwards as jury.

Two stall holders of Queen's Road West, whose stalls encroach on Crown land, were allowed a week to remedy the defect by Mr. F. A. Hazeland. At the end of this time they were again to appear before his Worship, but as they failed to do so, and also to remove their stalls, warrants were issued for their arrest. They appeared before the magistrate on March 20th, and were fined \$100 apiece, the alternative being three months' imprisonment.

An old Chinaman who was charged at Singapore on March 12th with having filthy wall paper on the walls of his house, said he did not dare to tear off the paper because his wife was about to present him with a baby. If the paper was torn the infant would be a cripple or badly disfigured. The Magistrate told him that this was no doubt very interesting, but he could not be allowed to keep his house in a filthy condition. \$3 and costs.

An Association of dealers in Silk Piece Goods has been formed at Yokohama. The following officers were appointed:—President, Mr. C. J. Strome; Committee Messrs. T. Mendelson, Keen (E. T. Mason & Co.), Wilson (Strauss & Co.) D. H. Blake (American Trading Co.) and P. C. Colman (Jardine, Matheson & Co.). Nineteen firms had signified their intention of joining and it was decided to keep the membership roll open until the 31st instant.

The annual meeting of the members of the Kowloon Bowling Green Club was held on March 18th at the Green, Mr. J. M. Henderson president presiding over a good attendance. The annual report and balance sheet which was considered very satisfactory, was adopted, after which the election of office bearers for the year was proceeded with, the following gentlemen being appointed: President, A. Ritchie; vice-president, T. Robertson; secretary and treasurer, P. Nye; committee, W. Ramsay, T. Skinner, R. H. Baxter, A. A. Milroy, W. C. Jack, W. Russell, and D. Gow; auditors, F. Dixon and A. Ramsay. Votes of thanks were awarded the retiring officials.

One of the cleverest architects who ever came to Shanghai, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, and a man whose impress is left in some of our finest buildings, passed away on March 16th in the late Mr. W. J. B. Carter, who was only thirty-nine years old, and came out in 1896 to Messrs. Morrison, Gratton and Scott. He had passed previously through the office of Messrs. Greyson and Ould of Liverpool whose designs in timber work especially are well known in the profession, and he did so well for the Shanghai firm that he was speedily admitted to a partnership. A few years later he married the daughter of his former chief at Liverpool, and it will be remembered that Mrs. Carter, who was resident in the East for a brief time, died only a few weeks since at Home. Her husband was then seriously ill in Hospital. Popular among men, Mr. Carter was one of the chief supporters of the now defunct Smoking Concert Club, he had served on the committee of the Shanghai Club, was a former president of the Lancastrian Association and was also a prominent Freemason.

A Shanghaier wants the Municipal Council to resolve (1) That the policemen on night duty should all be armed with shot guns and slug cartridges or revolvers; (2) That strict orders should be proclaimed that all natives of the place found in the streets after 11.30 p.m. without lights burning brightly in their hands will be arrested and shot if they do not put up their hands; (3) No more than three men shall be seen together after 11.31 at night without being arrested.

The annual report and account of the Shanghai Pulp and Paper Co., Ltd., for the year 1906, show profit and loss account, including the balance, Tls. 1,753.13, brought forward from last year, with a credit of Tls. 65,906.20. During July an interim dividend of 5 per cent was declared and paid. New additions and repairs during the year 1906, amounting to Tls. 7,51,380 have been written off as well as Tls. 2,500.00 for depreciation, besides setting aside Tls. 8,000.00 for reserve, bringing reserve account up to Tls. 45,900.00. From the balance, Tls. 25,854.82, to the credit of profit and loss account, the directors propose to pay a final dividend of 5 per cent, carrying forward Tls. 3,354.82 to new account. The plant continues to be kept in perfect order, and is working most satisfactorily.

The departure for home by the N.-D. L. S. *Princess Alice*, of M. and Madame Paul Brunat leaves a very perceptible gap in the social life of the Settlements, says the *N. C. Daily News*. M. Brunat, like many others, began his Far Eastern experiences in Japan, which he reached in 1866. He founded a silk filature for the Japanese Government and left after six years, service, which was recognized as lately as a fortnight ago by the award of the medal of the Society for the Promotion of Commercial Enterprises. In 1876 M. Brunat arrived in Shanghai and he has been identified with its business and affairs, especially on the South side of the Yangkingtang, ever since. He served on several occasions on the French Municipal Council and during the short space that has supervened since the departure of M. Chapeau, he has been the doyen of the French community. His memory will be fitly perpetuated in Shanghai by the name of the principal avenue in the French Concession, but both he and Madame Brunat will be much missed by a large circle of friends.

THE SHANGHAI POLICE.

A *Daily Press* telegram dated Shanghai, March 20th, said:—

The ratepayers' meeting passed an amended resolution which was proposed by Mr. Drummond and seconded by Mr. Alexander MacLeod, asking the Council to appoint an outside committee of seven members to investigate fully police matters. In the course of the meeting Mr. Keswick announced the appointment of Major Barnett, of Singapore, to the command of the reorganised Sikh branch of the police force. The meeting also largely resolved to admit the Press to Council meetings, but a motion to this effect was negative on the poll, the voting being 257 for and 383 against. A resolution suggesting the sale of the Electricity Department to a private company was rejected.

WANTED. A BRAKE ON DEMOCRACY.

(Daily Press, 18th March.)

While we are discussing how the principles of representative Government may be introduced into China to the improvement of the internal administration of that country, circumstances are arising at home which have raised considerable doubt in many quarters as to the efficacy of democratic principles, when carried to extremes. That the people at large should be able to express their views as to the mode in which their country should be governed and should also be able to see that the government of the country is conducted in accordance with those views is, in the present day, an accepted axiom. The question, however, how this end is to be attained, is by no means so well settled. The most natural mode is by representative institutions; and in one form or another this system is accepted in almost all countries in Europe. To what extent, however, the popular voice should go in the government is the point upon which not only various countries but various schools of politicians differ very widely. In England and America there has always been the leaning towards giving the fullest power to the popular voice—and up to the present time it cannot be denied that upon the whole this liberal treatment of the subject has worked satisfactorily. Of late years, however, an increasing number of statesmen have begun to feel that it is just possible that popular principles are being carried too far. The tactics adopted at the last general election called attention to this in a very prominent manner. Any cry that would catch the ear of the masses and secure votes was considered good enough as an electioneering "plank"; and since the Liberal Government have been in office they have shown themselves willing to listen to representations from every faddist who could show that he had anything in the way of a following behind him. This state of thing, had, however, become apparent long before the election. It was commented upon by HAMILTON FIFE in an article upon "The lost Art of Government" which appeared in the *Fortnightly*, in terms which have much significance at the present time. He noticed the fallacy of the idea that Democracy must prove to be an infallible system. "Democracy and Aristocracy are, as systems, equally defective. Aristocracy would be all very well if it provided any machinery for getting the best men to the top. Since it has omitted to do that it resolves itself into an excuse for government in the interests of one or two classes at the expense of the rest. Democracy cannot succeed any better if its principles are strictly observed, for these assume that the persons elected to carry on the business of the State are merely delegates chosen to do the bidding of the electors, who are seldom of the same mind for more than a few days at a time." He goes on to observe that Democracy fails to meet the great need of human nature in the mass—that of a leader. "Human nature will not follow a leader unless it is convinced that he is in some way raised above it, whether by birth, brains, or bullion." The alliteration is somewhat fanciful, but there can be little question that it fairly sets forth three things which go farthest in placing men in prominent position not only with the masses but with people generally. The problem to be solved is to get leaders who have the necessary brains and the power of making the masses follow them—which latter will be best attained by their being

men who have "made up their minds as to the course which ought to be followed who are determined to follow that course so long as they are permitted, and who would rather be turned out than follow some other course for the purpose of sticking in Let such men arrive to make a union between the principles of Democracy and Aristocracy, and we may yet accomplish safely the heavy task that lies before us, of re-shaping all our institutions to fit the altered features of a new age."

This is in effect the task which lies before China at the present time—and the difficulties which have to be met are precisely those which are pointed out as existing at home, notwithstanding that there, representative institutions exist to the fullest extent. The Chinese who are often right in abstract principles, however much they may fail in their application, hold that where the people go wrong, there is some fault also with the officials. This is only one way of asserting the fact that, for a nation to be properly governed, the first essential is to have men who not only possess the genius of governing, but are able to induce the masses to follow them and to co-operate with them. Taking this into consideration there is room to doubt whether too much may not be expected from the introduction of representative institutions in a country which has so long been accustomed to an autocratic form of governments. In discussing this question as regards India, a well-informed writer in the *Spectator* observes that representative democracy, which alone is suitable to large free communities, and which has enabled democracy to borrow many of the advantages of oligarchy without losing its essential characteristic of popular sanction, has never appealed to the Asiatic mind. "Whenever the East has desired to apply the democratic principle on its social side—and in a certain sense the East has always desired that—it has obtained its equality and fraternity through a despotism like that of the Moguls, of the Emperors of China, or of the Sultans of Turkey—a despotism which leaves only one head emerging above the level of the subjected crowd." This is not wholly true as regards China, but at the same time it indicates approximately the difficulty that has to be faced in changing a system of government in theory entirely autocratic, though in practice in many respects much more democratic than is commonly believed, to one in which the latter principle will be held to predominate. For any change in this direction to be effectual it is essential in China as in other places that there should be statesmen whose sole object is to benefit their country and who possess the necessary position and ability to enable them to obtain the full co-operation of the people at large in their efforts in this direction. The question is whether such men can be found in China, or rather whether the existing system can be so modified as to bring them to the front. Without some change in the tone and aspirations of the governing classes, the introduction of representative institutions would do comparatively little good. The corruption and venality which notoriously pervade the official classes must be done away with or at least greatly checked. Experience unfortunately proves that extreme democratic institutions are not incompatible with gross corruption. A sudden change to such a system would not necessarily put an end to the main evil connected with Chinese internal administration. China is, therefore, not wrong in

going to work slowly and warily in respect to so radical a measure. The way to it must be prepared beforehand by reducing the opportunities for extortion and injustice which exist at present and there will then and only then be some hope that the introduction of popular institutions will be possible. A too sudden change in this direction might leave the administration as corrupt as it was before and with less hope than ever of ultimate reform.

SHANGHAI'S TAXATION.

(Daily Press, 19th March.)

As a curious instance of how difficult it is without being intimately acquainted with all the surrounding circumstances of a case, to draw just conclusions on the incidence of taxation, we may notice Mr. J. C. E. DOUGLAS's remarks as to the low taxation of Shanghai. Unfortunately, owing to various circumstances, the extreme north-western corner of the Foreign Settlement had, so far as the foreign element is concerned, been undoubtedly under-policed, and for some time on the extreme outskirts, in a district closely abutting on a thickly inhabited native district, only one foreign constable had been available for night duty. Looking at the affair after its fatal result on Monday morning the 11th instant, there was no justification for undermanning this district, as the whole of the northern boundary of the Settlement, since the late Taotai YUAN commenced his campaign against the Foreign Concession, has become a sanctuary for all manner of native rowdies; and this position of affairs is well known to the Municipal Council. But having said so much, it is only fair to remember that the whole affair was the work of a few minutes, and had evidently been carefully thought out beforehand so as to take by surprise even a more highly organised body of Police than are as yet available in the Settlements at Shanghai. We have before alluded to the peculiar relations existing between the native officials and the well-organised body of Salt Smugglers who infest this stretch of country, and whose work goes on night after night without any available check being taken by the local officials to put it down. It is largely owing to this position of affairs that the services of the Force have been overtaken, and that large additions to its strength have had to be made, and more will be required in the near future. The Municipal Council would gladly take a portion of the responsibility of preserving order over these districts on its own shoulders, but in the present condition of affairs this is impossible, for the native authorities are neither content to permit the Council to discharge their duties for them, nor on the other hand will they take any steps themselves to preserve order. The consequence is that the condition of these fringing localities is yearly growing worse, and life and property becoming more unsafe. It is not, however, so much with the view of commenting on shortcomings or otherwise of the municipal control, as of drawing attention to certain of Mr. DOUGLAS's remarks that we propose to make some comments. First, as to revenue—Mr. DOUGLAS assures the community that they ought, instead of trying to economise over their police expenditure, feel exceedingly grateful that they are not, as certain communities in England, taxed almost to the full measure of their capacity. The General Rate in Shanghai, he points out, amounts to but two shillings in the

pound, whereas certain boroughs in England have to pay 10 or 12 shillings. Of course, there is the obvious difference that these rates are exceptional, and only occur in a few instances where the classes dependent on their richer neighbours for their daily sustenance have obtained possession of the franchises. But there is another strictly financial distinction. The Shanghai taxation is based on rentals actually paid, while the English taxation is in all cases founded on a valuation presumed to represent the economic value of the premises: the difference amounts to as much as one fourth, or even one third. Comparing this with County Council valuations of London there are some curious differences as well as likenesses. The control of the Shanghai Municipality extends over eight square miles: that of the County Council over a hundred and twenty. Actually the Shanghai Municipality has not yet opened up for purposes of taxation quite six. The valuation of the County Council for taxation is nearly 45 million sterling, that of Shanghai 1½ million sterling, so that space for space the Shanghai valuation comes to two-thirds of the London. Proportionally London is more than 50 per cent. richer so that the result bears out the contention indicated above as to the high rental taxation of the Shanghai Settlement. But the house tax represents only two-thirds of the amount in Shanghai raised by direct taxation, for in addition to the house tax, the ground on which the house stands is also taxed, and this tax brings in more than fifty per cent. of the other. Reduced to the English scale of taxation, then, Shanghai pays in direct taxes some 4s. 6d. in the pound, which but a few years ago, before the school boards commenced to impose a heavy scheme of taxation for educational purposes, would not have been looked upon as especially light. This, however, is not all that the Shanghai resident has to pay for the upkeep of his Municipality, for he has to provide some 60 odd thousands sterling in the way of licence fees. True, a good part of these are entirely optional, but this can hardly be said of the taxes on locomotion which amount to quite half, and are estimated for the coming year at some £30,000. In fact the only outside aid that comes to the assistance of the Municipal Revenue is the Wharfage dues. These, it is true, amount to some £30,000, or 10 per cent. of the entire revenue and are a welcome and useful addition to the ordinary revenue.

The entire estimated revenue for the coming year amounts to 2,000,000 taels, which may be counted as £300,000 sterling. As the entire population, foreign and native, is estimated at slightly less than half a million, this amounts to 12 shillings a head—men, women and children. Of this total some 97 per cent. are Chinese, the greater portion of the lower classes, so that it is not easy to see how a higher revenue is available, or can be readily extracted without involving heavy individual burdens; and this is the main reason why economies in all the departments have to be carefully studied. In one respect the Municipality affords a favourable contrast to home Corporations. Excepting the Electric Lighting station, for which of course the money has had to be borrowed, the entire indebtedness of the Municipality amounts to but a million and a quarter taels, or seven and a half months' income, and an ample sinking fund is provided, so that this proportion has of late years never been exceeded. This compares well with the twelve and a half years' indebtedness of the London County Council. For the £300,000 sterling, the Council provides not only for

the Policing of the entire Settlement, but for a considerable force of Volunteers well armed and trained for its external defence. It has also to keep in order and light and sewer some eighty miles of roads; provides for public parks and recreation, as well as a Town Band; and in addition to effective sanitary control, it has now undertaken the control of education, foreign and native; as well as providing the necessary school buildings. Putting one thing with another, and remembering that in all cases the controlling staff has to be provided from home, it does not seem reasonable to charge the Council with undue parsimony, nor on the other side to complain of inefficiency: in fact, looking at the amount and wide extent of the duties forced upon it by the necessities of the situation, it seems rather to be deserving of the highest eulogy for what under circumstances in any respect discouraging, and in teeth of the jealous opposition of the Chinese Government and the local officials, it has succeeded in effecting.

CHINA HANDS AND THE CHANNEL TUNNEL.

(Daily Press, 20th March.)

Of all the very numerous Channel Tunnel arguments, for and against, there is so far not one that touches the real danger to the British public. The debaters have overlooked the flood of fiction of "The next Invasion" type which is bound to follow—and keep step with—the boring. This, we hasten to confess, is somewhat frivolous, but we do not altogether withdraw the suggestion that the nuisance will be a serious one. We can only hope that the novelists and romancers and expert *Daily Mail* collaborators will wait before regarding the Tunnel as the last word, and watch the development of aerial possibilities. If airships are as near as the newspapers seem to think, perhaps this engineering feat under the English Channel will be allowed to pass as adding comparatively little to the peril of the United Kingdom. The controversy over the tunnel scheme offers a remarkable illustration of the avidity with which arguments are seized upon to bolster existing prejudices. Contra-arguments fly to these as if impelled by atomic attraction, and predilection finds no more difficulty in picking up pro-statements. To the impartial or indifferent mind, neither side has much to brag of in the way of convincing testimony. The great names that have been enrolled on the list of the scheme's opponents afford some amusing reflections. Eminent soldiers who dread its possibilities seem quite unconscious of the implication of their opposition: that they have no faith in themselves or in the British fighting men. Of Sir JOHN WOLFE BARRY's opposition a contemporary has much to say that is pertinent. Sir JOHN WOLFE BARRY's eminence as an engineer does not render him a high priest of infallibility, as, our contemporary believes, many people in the Far East will readily agree. Sir HUMPHREY DAVY, as eminent an engineer in his day as Sir JOHN WOLFE BARRY to-day, poolpoohed the possibility of using gas as an illuminant. "Sir J. WOLFE BARRY's eminence is, of course, too well established to call in question; but when he deliberately asserts that 'a railway ferry with the most modern improvements could be installed which would fulfil almost all that a Channel Tunnel could provide, we begin to wonder whether Sir J. WOLFE BARRY has ever been at sea, if he has ever crossed the Channel in an

equinoctial gale. We do not attempt to controvert his estimates of the relative cost of a ferry and the Tunnel, nor to discuss the engineering difficulties that stand in the way of the proposed scheme. Other eminent engineers will do that. But when he asserts, with ponderous gravity, that success—we presume he means financial success—cannot be guaranteed, we wonder how many schemes he has been connected with of which, in their initial stages, the same thing has not been said." And so on, and so on. But our contemporary need not have belaboured the poor man so. He is only one of the great men to whose obiter dicta the gullible public, its own thinking apparatus atrophied, loves to listen with "bated breath." All these people have some axe to grind. We do not suggest that Sir JOHN WOLFE BARRY has had a retainer to oppose the scheme, but we do venture to hint that his opinions might have been other than they are if he had been professionally interested in the undertaking. The shipping people interested in the Channel Trade are naturally not in love with the project, but to convert the public to their views it would never have done to admit their fear of loss of business. So they gladly join the chorus of alarm at a "great national danger." The argument that it is disgraceful of Englishmen to admit disinclination to risk sea-sickness is a rather telling one, in print, but it is very thin. There are other advantages than this immunity, which home-goers from the Far East will readily think of. The number of passengers going overland from the Mediterranean offers some indication of the number that will be glad to continue through the tunnel, if and when it is ever constructed. The "entente cordiale" argument, on the other hand, has been very much overdone. We presume this tunnel scheme is a commercial enterprise, and those who invest in it will take the risk, not Sir JOHN WOLFE BARRY. Those who don't stand to lose nothing, for it is surely insulting to the intelligence of the British defence forces to suggest that they cannot devise means to cope with any danger threatened at one definite point.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT.

(Daily Press, 21st March.)

Few competent observers consider that China's "reform" of her penal code is genuine, and few doubt that where it does seem to have been acted upon it has been inaugurated with wrong motives and bad results. For excesses of sentimentalism, cant, and even injustice, it is usually unnecessary to look further than to a country's crime and its efforts to cope with it. Few civilized nations in this respect can fairly throw stones at another. The British, who have not long abandoned hanging and transportation for petty offences, have still as much to reform as China has, especially in the way of reaching a proper sense of proportion, making the punishment fit the crime. Ten years' imprisonment for an offence repugnant to all sane men seems yet far too much if we consider that the evil done is sentimental rather than physical; while a few months for a man who by violence ruins the whole future of a fellow creature is ridiculously inadequate. The punishment of those dishonest financiers and others who cause suffering to hundreds should also be more severe. Punishment of either sort, light or heavy, is never really a deterrent, if experience counts at all; and the ideal would seem to be that it should in all cases be appropriate and inevitable. Recommendations to mercy, usually the result of

sentimentalism, would be unnecessary if the punishments were made to fit the crime. Those maudlin people who advocate the abolition of capital punishment, by the way, should be condemned to patrol the streets of places like Shanghai, with no weapon other than a walking-stick. Humanitarians are so inconsistent, so illogical. They will go into hysterics over a "dozen with the cat," while they will cheerfully attack their ham and eggs of a morning without a single pang for the man entering on ten years of prison life. So these cruelly merciful people of the soft heart and watery eye, these JOB TROTTERS of humanitarianism, have induced China to look askance at castigation, or to pretend to. The abolition of judicial torture—not accomplished, by the way—was a reform prompted by commonsense and justice, but the outcry against the cangue and the bamboo, as against the stocks and the "cat" elsewhere, was sheer sentimentalism. Great was the rejoicing when China talked of abandoning castigation. The news was equally pleasing to criminals and coddlers. A northern contemporary remarks:

"The abolition of flagellation in this Empire was nothing more, and was never intended to be anything more than a pretty pretence on which the Five Travelling High Commissioners should be able to pose before an all-admiring world as the representatives of a regenerated and civilised China. There is only one place in China where the abolition has been carried out, and that place, curiously enough, is the very place where Chinese jurisdiction has longest been in abeyance. In the Report of the Hankow British Concession will be found over and over again the record of blows inflicted, in numbers varying from one to five hundred, and the first step to be taken in Shanghai for the restoration of peace and order should be the return to the use of the bamboo; and that without delay. It would also be well if the use of the stocks be established, the same as it is in Hongkong."

Of course the authorities of the native city of Shanghai are no more sentimental than a weasel is. They know that their European neighbours dislike the idea of physical pain troubling the hide of the most callous criminal, and they chuckle to themselves as they let the surprised malefactor loose again to kill policemen and break and burn property. "Improper to beat these men? Very well. Anything to please you, gentlemen." Truly they may well smile, as they note the European rejoicing over this "symptom of reform." But, as we have previously pointed out, their humanitarianism wears thin when they come to deal with a criminal who has conducted his business elsewhere than in the Foreign Settlement. Really, it does not seem altogether fair to blame them too much. The Shanghai Mixed Court exists partly to confirm the European locus standi, and partly to assure the humanitarians that no brutality is practised at their very doors. A strong Government would have done away with such a dangerous anomaly long ago, and risked the jealousy of other Powers. The Chinese Magistrate sits to represent Chinese sovereignty; the Foreign Assessor to represent Europe's humaner notions. Whether too severe or too lenient, the Chinese Magistrate is bound to offend, and we see no inducement for him to pursue the happy mean. While strongly sympathising with the present troubles of Shanghai, we cannot refrain from pointing out that the public's present outcry for greater severity is as unreasonable and sentimental as its tears and rejoicings when one white man who had fatally shot another was not hanged as he ought to have been. The peculiar provocation in that case evoked gallons of sentimentalism. When judges and juries

bring reason instead of emotion to bear on crime and its punishment, it may be found that China's penal system—apart from official corruption and tyranny—is not so far amiss if left alone.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on March 19th at the Board Room. The Hon. Mr. W. Chatham (Vice-President) presided, and there were also present Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Hon. Mr. A. W. Erwin (Registrar General), Hon. Mr. F. J. Badeley (Captain-Superintendent of Police), Dr. H. MacFarlane (Assistant Medical Officer of Health), Mr. H. Humphreys, Mr. Shelton Hooper, Mr. Lau Chu-pak, Mr. Fung Wa chun and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (secretary).

KOWLOON CITY SCAVENGING CONTRACT.

Regarding the scavenging contract for Kowloon City, Inspector Cameron reported that the contractor commenced work with twelve coolies and one foreman according to his contract. Then about the middle of January eleven coolies and one foreman only were employed, and at the end of the same month the number on contract was ten coolies and one foreman. On January 1st the Inspector took the foreman round streets of the city and showed him what he had to do. The work was done fairly well at first, but afterwards was sadly neglected, and the foreman at present seldom went in the morning to supervise the coolies.

Dr. McFARLANE, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, minuted that this small contract required the whole contract number to do the work in any way decently. The contract, number had not been engaged since January, therefore the contractor should be warned that this could not go on.

The SECRETARY wrote asking Dr. McFarlane if he agreed to a deduction of \$14 from the monthly amount paid the contractor.

Dr. McFARLANE thought \$14 was a fairly stiff fine, but would probably prevent any repetition of the offence. Later, he thought a fine of \$10 would meet the case seeing that the contractor had been warned with no effect.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—The question is one of imposing a fine on the contractor for failing to supply a sufficient number of men in accordance with the terms of his contract. Strictly speaking the fine if fully enforced would be a little over \$14 but it might be sufficient to inflict a fine of \$10 on this occasion.

Members agreed.

A YARD THAT IS NOT A YARD.

The master of a rattan shop applied for a modification of the requirements of section 180 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, in respect of Nos. 124 and 140 Second Street.

The VICE-PRESIDENT pointed out that tanks, which were necessary in this business, were retained in the yards of the houses in question.

Mr. HOOPER—What is the objection to their being in the yard?

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—As a matter of fact the whole yard is converted into a tank which is used for washing rattans.

Mr. HOOPER—You get external air?

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—Yes, but not the other purposes of a yard.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—They don't cook their food in the house do they?

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—Probably in the kitchen.

Mr. HOOPER—Are you afraid that refuse might be thrown into this tank?

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—No. That doesn't trouble me in the least.

Mr. HOOPER—It would be very insanitary.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—How does the stuff drain off?

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—There is a pipe which is pulled out occasionally to let the water out.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Then the place might be a breeding pool for mosquitoes?

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—No, the water is not kept there long enough.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—My point is that it ceases to be a yard.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—For sanitary purposes wouldn't it be better to have the water in the yard than in a dark corner inside the building?

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—Yes.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—If you say the tanks ought not to be there at all, then the business must be transferred elsewhere.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—Most tanks are in an open area, but generally there is a place for the purpose.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Do you mean to say that from a sanitary point of view the building is unsuitable for that particular trade?

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—I don't think I'd go so far as to say that.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—That being so, and seeing that they must have a big tank to put rattans in, I move, if the carrying on of that particular trade in the house in question is not insanitary, that the tank be allowed to stay where it is.

Mr. HOOPER seconded and the motion was agreed to.

A MODIFICATION WANTED.

Application was made for a modification of the requirements of clause 11 of schedule G. of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, in respect of No. 260 Des Voeux Road Central.

The VICE-PRESIDENT explained that the application was for a modification of the requirements of the regulations with regard to the erection of verandahs.

Mr. HOOPER asked if the building would be insanitary in law if it were, as it is, on private property; or was it only insanitary because it was on Crown land?

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—From a building point of view it is an encroachment on Crown land.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—In my opinion the building is inadequately provided with open space. The Medical Officer of Health is more qualified to give an opinion regarding the building from a sanitary point of view.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—Whether on Crown land or not the Board has power to require section 175 to be enforced. I have no objection to the erection of a balcony, but before it is put up the building should be made according to the requirements of the Ordinance.

The VICE-PRESIDENT moved that the application be refused.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Here two points are involved which we ought not to lose sight of. Mr. Hooper was quite right in raising the sanitary question, but there are also the rights of the Crown to prevent people encroaching on Crown land. I think the application should be refused, and will second the motion.

The motion was carried.

QUAINT CHINESE PETITION.

The following application for a piece of ground adjacent to the Man Chow Cemetery to be used as a grave space, came before the Board:—"The petition of Pun Hang-tong, agent of Man Chow Club, No. 54 Connaught Road Central, first floor, applying for a small grave space at the Man Chow public cemetery in Mount Davis, sheweth:—That about twenty odd years ago owing the Government erected a fort at Mount Davis and your petitioner found number of remains of some unknown persons were lying somewhere near the fort, so your petitioner at once sent in a petition to the Government for a piece of ground named Man Chow which was afterwards granted to your petitioner to re-enter these remains there. Since the place was granted your petitioner named it as the Man Chow Public Cemetery and worshipped these remains every year in accordance with the Chinese custom. That owing at present your petitioner wishes to apply for a grave space somewhere near the Man Chow Public Cemetery at Mount Davis and prays that his request may be granted for which he as in duty bound will ever pray."

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH minuted—I think the application should go to the Government. The applicant was apparently allowed some years ago to re-enter some bones on the site indicated, but this is a different matter altogether to forming a new grave there now.

Mr. HOOPER—I don't like these informal cemeteries which apparently are not under Government control. Better discuss it.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—This application should certainly be refused.

The REGISTRAR-GENERAL—There is no sufficient reason to grant this. To do so would lead to similar applications from other members of the club.

The application was refused.

EXTENSION OF TIME WANTED.

Kwan Hing, gold and silversmith of Wellington Street, applied for an extension of six months to comply with section 45 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, in respect of 31 Wellington Street.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH minuted—I do not think the application is a reasonable one. The basement kitchen is quite unfit to use for the preparation of food. There is very little probability of smoke entering the shop from the kitchen on the ground floor, but if it does the man could probably get the food for his foks cooked outside. I think an extension of one month might be allowed.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—I think this application should be granted so as to enable the applicant to find another suitable place.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUN—I think the Board should grant the extension called for.

Extension of time for six months was allowed.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended March 2nd the mortality statistics of the whole Colony at a death rate per 1,000 per annum show a percentage of 18.6 as against 14.1 for the corresponding week of last year.

LIMEWASHING.

The limewashing return for the fortnight ended February 26th shows that 4,354 houses were limewashed in the Eastern, 1,833 in the Central and 1,908 in the Western district.

RAT RETURN.

For the week ended March 16th 600 rats were caught in the Colony, and only one of this number was found to be infected.

FOOD INSPECTION.

The MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH minuted:—Authority under section 83 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance to enter premises for the purpose of inspecting and examining food found therein has not been given to me under the present Ordinance (1 of 1903), and I recommend that the Board be asked to give me that authority in writing.

The necessary authority was given.

VOLUNTEER RESERVE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the members of the Hongkong Volunteer Reserve Association was held on March 19th at the City Hall. H.E. the Governor presided over a good attendance, and was supported by Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C. and Mr. Wakeman, hon. secretary.

Sir HENRY said he was glad to see such a good attendance at that meeting. It was now no longer necessary for him as he did on the last occasion to preach the doctrine of learning to shoot because the words then uttered had fallen on fertile ground and the young men and the manhood of the Colony generally had responded almost universally to the appeal then made. The crusade which was started in England before that Association was formed was still being pursued with vigour by that great soldier Lord Roberts, and, as they were all probably aware, most towns in the United Kingdom had now miniature rifle ranges for the purpose of affording practice in shooting. Most of them had noticed that the Queen had given a cup worth 100 guineas to be competed for on miniature rifle ranges, and what Her Majesty had done His Excellency had done to encourage shooting in Hongkong. It would be pleasant for His Excellency to know that the cup—which was worthy of acceptance—had been won with a score which was worthy of the occasion (applause). Proceeding to give a resumé of the work of the Association during the past year, Sir Henry said that on 1st January, 1906 the strength of the Association was 213 and he had great

pleasure in stating that on 1st January, 1907, the strength was 251—(applause)—an increase of 28. It was satisfactory to note that the membership had not stood at 251. It was more than that now. What was more satisfactory than mere numbers was the record of shooting, which showed an all round improvement. This was especially seen in the competition for the Governor's Cup. His Excellency would be glad to learn that the first three competitors had learned to shoot since they joined the Association. (applause). The score of the winner was 355 net out of a possible 420, equal to 44 points out of every possible five (applause). Further good had resulted from the shooting for that Cup given by His Excellency. That was the extreme competition of the members, there being no fewer than 1470 entries for the competition. Not only was the competition keen but it was close, this being shown by the fact that there were only eight points between the first five men (applause). That was as good as could be hoped for. During the time the cup was being shot for there was a keen competition all along, and it was not held in any one month by a competitor with a score less than 70 (applause). What was most interesting was the fact that in November 1906 Mr. Pidgeon won the cup from scratch (applause). He fired 16 shots, including two sighters and made 16 bulls (applause). The speaker expressed the hope that the cup would be as keenly competed for in 1907 as the cup about to be presented. In addition to that handsome cup before them, His Excellency would give another for the current year, while Sir Paul Chater would give another to the second shot in the competition for the Governor's Cup. Cups had also been promised by Mr. Orange, Mr. H. P. White, and Mr. Medhurst (applause), the conditions to which would be arranged by the committee. During the year Mr. Denison had given a cup which was won by Mr. J. C. Gow, a very steady shot. Sir Henry then referred to the success of the members of the Association at the meeting of the China United Service Rifle Association, and alluded to the opening of the new range at the Peak, which he regretted had not a greater range than 500 yards. He advised members not to neglect the opportunities for shooting at the distances afforded by the new Range, and mentioned that the Tramway Company had intimated to him that they were prepared to enter into an arrangement whereby members going to shoot would be granted tickets at 30 cents return instead of 50 (applause). The suggestion made by His Excellency as to shooting at vanishing targets had been carried out, and he was glad to say that good shooting had been done during the year at vanishing targets. Competition for a prize generously given by the China Mail had taken place, and though none of the members had ever shot at such a target before, the contest was keen, three men tying for the first place. Concluding, he trusted that the members would continue to do as good work in the future as in the past year and added that the regular attendances and the success of the Association were largely due to the zeal of their secretary, Mr. Wakeman (applause) who had shown himself a worthy successor of Mr. Trenchard Davis. The Association had been fortunate in having two such men at its command during the first two years of its existence. Mr. Wakeman, who was leaving the Colony, wished to resign, and he was sure they all joined with him in thanking Mr. Wakeman for the work he had done.

The report and balance sheet were afterwards adopted.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT proposed that the Hon. Mr. F. H. May and Messrs. L. C. Bird, W. H. Trenchard Davis, J. C. Gow, A. Mackenzie, F. Maitland, F. Ormiston and A. W. J. Watt be appointed to the committee for the ensuing year.

Mr. SAUNDERS seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. GOMPARTZ proposed the re-election of Sir Henry Berkeley as chairman for the ensuing year.

Mr. J. C. PETER seconded. Carried nem. con. Sir HENRY BERKELEY stated that Mr. Wakeman was resigning the secretaryship as he was shortly leaving for home. He proposed to members that they should elect as a

successor Mr. E. S. Carruthers of the Royal Engineers. They had been extremely fortunate in getting him to consent to act in case he was elected. He was a capable organiser and took a keen interest in the work.

Members agreed that Mr. Carruthers should be elected hon. secretary and treasurer for the ensuing twelve months.

HIS EXCELLENCY then presented Mr. A. J. Watt with the Governor's Cup and Mr. J. C. Gow with the China Mail Cup, after which he said: Sir Henry Berkeley and gentlemen—It has been a source of much gratification to me to hear from Sir Henry's speech of the progress made by this Association. There was one point which was not quite clear to me in Sir Henry's speech, and possibly he will take an opportunity of explaining it; the statement that the membership of the Association on December 31st consisted of 251 members, but in subsequent remarks he stated that all these members were not effective. I think it would be of interest to us to know how many were non-effective—that is to say, how many members of this shooting Association don't shoot. Possibly it may be well on some other occasion to show in detail. Though it is of great importance that a man should be a marksman, it is even of greater importance that a large number of men should be able to shoot reasonably well, and this report is a little bit deficient in information as to the tail end of the list. When I approached the Secretary of State on the subject of the Volunteers and the Volunteer Reserve last year, that is to say when I forwarded the report of the year ending March 31st, 1906, I stated that "the Hongkong Volunteer Reserve Association continues to make most satisfactory progress; the membership having increased from 76 to a total of 230 during the year under review. Of these the 80 most efficient members put in on the average 16.85 attendances at the ranges and made an average score of 47 out of a possible 70 for each 14 shots. The remaining 150 put in on the average 5.87 for attendances, and made an average score of 30 under similar conditions." I read you that to show you what strikes me as being important figures in connection with an Association such as the one I am now addressing. We want to have a high average; that is even more important than that a few men should be crack shots. As I read that extract I ventured to mention a remark made on the report it contained. This report deals with the Volunteers and the Volunteer Reserve, and was sent by the Secretary of State to the Colonial Defence Committee for their observation. They made observations on certain details, then added the general remark "Great credit is due to the British civil population for their liberal personal support of the various forces" (applause). The remark of the Colonial Defence Committee was sent to the Army Council, which body concurred. Two small points referred to in Sir Henry Berkeley's speech require a little elucidation for me. I certainly adhere to the remark I made last year about the necessity of shooting at longer ranges than 500 yards. Sir Henry says it is not practicable to have a range of 600 yards at the Peak, but it has since been reported to be practicable. I said I would wait before sanctioning the considerable expenditure which would be involved in its construction, however, until it was proved that ample use was made of the Peak range. That is how the matter stands now, and no doubt Sir Henry will be able to let me know if that condition has been fulfilled. I am glad that my father suggestion that there should be some shooting at vanishing targets has also been carried out, and that encouragement has been given to this particularly desirable form of practice by the generosity of the China Mail newspaper (applause). With these few remarks I will ask you to give a cordial vote of thanks to the president of the Association—Sir Henry Berkeley—to whom so much of its success is due.

The vote was carried by acclamation and followed by loud applause.

Sir HENRY BERKELEY then returned the thanks and afterwards stated with respect to the query regarding the members quoted that it was quite true there were 251 members, and that not all were effective. But very nearly all were. The 251 were composed of a

few who never could and never would be effective. These non-effective men who came forward originally came forward to set an example to the younger men of the Colony (applause). With reference to the Peak range, he was glad to hear the matter stood as it did. He was sure members of the Association would also be glad, because he and members of the committee were under the impression that it would be dangerous for persons passing along the road to have the long range where suggested.

Mr. R. SHEWAN stated that as one of the non-effective members to whom Sir Henry Berkeley referred, and as one who never could be effective but tried to do his duty in a humble way in other respects, he had much pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to His Excellency for attending. Some Governors were a deal too high to mix with mortals like us, but our Governor never wearied of assisting some institution like this, for he had the welfare of the community at heart. A great deal of the Association's success was due to Sir Matthew Nathan, who was a friend in need and a tower of strength to it. He was a very busy and hard-worked man as all knew, and for that reason they should show their appreciation for his kindness to the Association. Some cynic described patriotism as the last refuge of the scoundrel, but neither His Excellency nor those present would believe in this description.

The speaker then called for a hearty vote of thanks for the Governor, which was accorded, and terminated the meeting.

SUPREME COURT.

IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

Monday, March 18th.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT).

The March Criminal Sessions opened this day, when there were four cases for trial, embracing six prisoners.

PLEADED GUILTY.

Lo Wai pleaded guilty to cutting and wounding Chun Wan Kwai with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

The Attorney General explained that the prisoner and the prosecutor were working together in Victoria Gaol when without provocation, and owing it seemed to a former quarrel, the accused suddenly picked up a chopper and attacked the prosecutor, wounding him so severely on the leg that he would be lame for life.

The Chief Justice—Was there no provocation?

The Attorney General replied that there was no evidence of any provocation at the time, but one witness stated that at the time of the assault prisoner said to the prosecutor "You need not be so saucy because you know a few words of English."

Sentence of two years' imprisonment with hard labour was passed.

FORGERS.

To Im and Lum Ng were arraigned on three charges of obtaining three boxes of mushrooms from the Hip Wah on forged orders; with uttering forged requests, and with demanding and obtaining goods by virtue of such forged documents.

Prisoners pleaded not guilty, and the following jury was empanelled: Messrs. E. N. Tarrant, F. C. Kendall, T. L. Harrison, C. J. Schmidt, E. C. Wilks, Alfred Gregory, F. Lorria.

The Attorney General, in opening the case for the prosecution, stated that on the 25th February the second defendant engaged a street coolie and another man to fetch a case of mushrooms from the Hip Wah and handed him what purported to be a delivery order on that firm. The men took the case to the Hop Tak On wharf, where they were met by both defendants. They returned to the shop to get the second case, but by this time the shop folks had become suspicious and followed the men to the wharf. They seized the defendants and took them to the shop and called in the police. On defendants were found other forged order, and the Attorney General would show that the first man had guilty knowledge.

After evidence had been heard at length.

The jury found that the first prisoner was not guilty and he was discharged. They however found the charges proved against the second man but recommended him to mercy on account of his youth. His Honour passed sentence of twelve months' imprisonment.

A DARING THIEF.

Pun Yeung pleaded not guilty to the larceny of \$50 in cash and \$64 in clothing from 1 Lochiel Terrace, Kowloon, on 1st February.

The Attorney General prosecuted but prisoner was undefended.

Evidence was given to the effect that accused visited the house when the inmates, with the exception of a small boy, were absent. He caught hold of the boy, tied him to a bed, and enveloped his head in clothing while he proceeded to go through the room, opening and ransacking boxes. The boy struggled to liberate himself but was frightened by the threats used by the prisoner who absconded. When the houseboy returned he found the place in disorder and the small boy a prisoner. However, the accused returned to the house some days later but the small boy was afraid to announce there and then that he was the thief. When accused left the house the small boy told what he was and Pun was afterwards arrested.

The jury returned a verdict of not guilty and the prisoner was discharged.

Thursday, 21st March.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

MANY CLAIMANTS.

The case in which the Fat Kee firm and the Hung Sheung firm were plaintiff, and the defendants were Chan Wai-chi and the Official Receiver in the bankruptcy of the Kwong Yik Wo and the Yan On Marine and Fire Insurance Company Ltd, and Chai Kee, again came before the Court. The Chief Justice at the close of the arguments last week had reserved his decision, but he had invited counsel to attend as he wished to hear further argument.

It will be remembered that the claimants sought to recover various sums of money lent to the plaintiff, the proceeds of sale of flour amounting to \$35,300 and damages.

The Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. Bowley (of Messrs. Dennis and Bowley) appeared for Fat Kee and Hung Sheung; Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. Holborow, (of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon) acted for the Yan On Company, who, it was explained, were plaintiffs as well as claimants in the issue; Mr. M. W. Slide instructed by Mr. C. D. Wilkinson, represented Chan Wai-chi; and Mr. Althrop appeared for Chai Kee, one of the defendants.

The points on which the Chief Justice wished to hear further argument were:—Assuming the Court to be of opinion that the same principle with regard to property passing only on the goods being ascertained to be applicable to a contract of pledge as to a contract of sale:

(1) Does the evidence of the facts connected with the inspection, etc., in the godown, apart from the documents, amount to an ascertainment of the bags of flour pledged? (2) Do the documents supply the deficiency, if any, in this evidence? (3) Is the possibility that the same flour may have been pledged both to Fat Kee and Heung Sheung and also to the Yan On and possibly also to Madame Musso, consistent with the condition that the flour must be ascertained?

The Chief Justice on taking his seat said—I am sorry to have to call you again but I don't like being influenced by a point in the judgment which has not been thoroughly thrashed out. I shall be glad to hear each one. The main point is the question of the double pledge.

Mr. Pollock opened the argument by pointing out that each party was ignorant of the fact that the flour was pledged to somebody else, and assuming that there was not sufficient flour to meet the claims of both plaintiffs both should be tenants in common.

Other counsel followed and the case was adjourned.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

A DIRECTOR'S POWERS.

The Sam Choy Brick Tile and Timber Company of 150 Queen's Road West, sued the Lau Chu Company, trading as Yi Shum of 353 Queen's Road West, for \$1,000, being the balance due by defendants for goods sold and delivered by the plaintiff, after waiving one dollar in order to bring the claim within the jurisdiction of the Court. Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for plaintiffs and Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro for defendants.

The managing director of the plaintiff firm spoke to the goods having been supplied and to his having been instructed to sue.

His Honour wished to know if a resolution instructing him to sue had been passed by the directors and if so, had it been stamped.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing did not consider that such was necessary, but his Honour adjourned the case for the production of the books and documents.

THE "EGYPTIAN DELIGHT" CIGARETTE CASE.

Before Mr. C. D. Melbourne at the Magistracy on March 20th the hearing of the charge preferred against C. H. Kane of the larceny of 100 cases of "Egyptian Delight" tobacco, the property of the British-American Tobacco Co., was continued.

Sir Henry Berkeley, K.C., instructed by Mr. M. J. D. Stephens, prosecuted, and Messrs. G. K. Hall Brutton and J. H. Gardiner (of Messrs. Brutton and Hett) appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Brutton stated that before addressing his Worship on the evidence he had an initial objection to take to the form of the charge. The first charge was for that they, the first and second defendants, sometime between October 3rd, 1906, and February 10th, 1907, feloniously did steal 100 cases of "Egyptian Delight" tobacco valued at \$750, the property of the British-American Tobacco Co. Mr. Brutton referred his Worship to section 3 of Ordinance 5 of 1865, and said it had been laid down that a prisoner must be charged with an offence in the technical form—did steal, take and carry away. Taking and carrying away were essential ingredients of a charge of larceny, while the form of the charge in the case before the Court was "did steal 100 cases." The second point he had to raise was that the goods stolen should be described with such certainty as to enable a jury to decide that the said goods were stolen. With regard to the 100 cases of "Egyptian Delight" tobacco some of the cases were not numbered, and there was nothing to specify that those particular cases were stolen. They might have been 100 empty cases for all that was known, or from what could be gathered from the charge. The general rule was that stolen goods were to be described with such certainty as would enable a jury to decide that the goods were stolen. A defendant was entitled at any time to know what he was being tried for. The facts had to be sufficiently stated, also the description of the stolen goods, to enable the defendant to answer the charge. The same remarks applied to the four cases of "Three Castles" and one case of "Pirate" cigarettes. The numbers of the cases should have been stated with sufficient exactitude to enable the defendant to meet the charge. The speaker then reviewed the evidence which had been adduced, and remarked that the case was iniquitous inasmuch as witnesses for the prosecution had been kept in jail for seven days, and then discharged on condition that they should give evidence. He concluded by asking his Worship to discharge the defendant.

Sir Henry Berkeley said the charge came under section 80 of the Magistrates' Ordinance of 1891, which stated that a magistrate might deal with the case and convict the accused summarily. If his Worship decided to convict summarily he had to perform the functions of a jury, but if he was of opinion that the case was one which should not be decided summarily, but should go

before the Supreme Court, he was not to exercise the functions of a jury. The loss of the tobacco in question was no light matter. It was a most serious one to the Company, and if the defendant was guilty, he was guilty of a most heinous offence which should be dealt with by a tribunal of a higher order. Dealing with the technical objections raised by Mr. Brutton, he admitted that it would have been better and more proper, but not necessary in a preliminary charge, that the charge should not be confined to the word "steal." It should also have had the words "take and carry away," and when the case was committed for trial the indictment would be sure to be in that form. When an information was laid before a magistrate the same formality of a technical nature was not required, because in the first instance the men who dealt with cases were not lawyers but policemen or sergeants. With respect to the allegation that the charge was not specific, it was quite true that it should be in order that a defendant might know what he had to answer. In this instance it could not be made more specific. They said that the man stole 100 cases of "Egyptian Delight" tobacco. What was more specific than that? If he said a man stole a pair of trousers from him he did not want to say that they were sewn with linen thread made in Belfast, neither did he want to say that the buttons on them bore the name of the tailor who made the trousers.

Mr. Brutton—I'm afraid you do. In the case of eggs you've got to state what kind of eggs were stolen.

Sir Henry Berkeley—You haven't got to say whether they were addled or not, have you? Counsel concluded his remarks by asking his Worship to commit the defendant for trial.

Defendant was committed for trial, bail being fixed at \$5,000.

H.R.V.T.

TROOP RIFLE MEETING.

The annual rifle meeting of the Hongkong Volunteer Troop was held at the King's Park Range, Kowloon, on Sunday, when the shooting showed a great improvement on last year's returns. The turn out was a record, every member of the Troop now in the Colony, putting in an appearance.

The following were the highest scores:—

Trooper R. G. Munro	163
" M. Slade	162
Lieut. C. H. Ross	159
Sergt. L. Murphy	144
Trooper A. J. Williams	141
Corpl. G. K. H. Brutton	138
Trooper C. H. Blason	134
" A. T. Walker	131
" C. D. Melbourne	125
" H. W. Looker	117
" H. F. Hickman	112
" E. A. Hankey	111
" C. E. Morrel	110
" D. Forbes	110
" C. G. Mackie	103
" J. Paterson	101

The following is the Prize List. Not more than 1 prize exclusive of grand aggregate to be taken by any one competitor:—

- 1 The Kowloon Cup. Presented by M. Stewart, Esq. won by Lieut. C. H. Ross.
- 2 The Taipo Cup. Presented by C. H. Ross, Esq. won by Trooper A. J. Williams.
- 3 The Fanning Cup. Presented by J. R. M. Smith, Esq. won by Trooper R. G. Munro.
- 4 The Cheong Shui Cup. Presented by L. Murphy, Esq. won by Trooper M. Slade.
- 5 The Ping Shan Cup. Presented by G. Melhert, Esq. won by Sergt. L. Murphy.
- 6 The Sha Ta Kok Cup. Presented by D. R. Law, Esq. won by Trooper C. D. Melbourne.
- 7 The Kong Ta Han Cup. Presented by A. J. Williams, Esq. won by Corp. G. K. Hall-Brutton.

The Grand Aggregate Cup. Presented by Hon. W. J. Gresson, won by Trooper R. G. Munro.

A Wooden Spoon, presented to the competitor making the lowest aggregate went to Trooper E. Buxton Forman.

The nett results show that of 34 members, 9 are classed as marksmen and 7 as first class shots.

HONGKONG'S PUBLIC DEBT.

The Gazette contains the statement of Funded Public Debt or Loans borrowed for fixed periods outstanding on the 31st December, 1906, and of the Accumulated Sinking Funds at the same date.

SINKING FUNDS.	Amount of Stock, &c.	Cost Price.		Market Value.	
		£	d.	£	d.
Brit. Guiana.	3 per cent. Stock.	2,000	0 0	1,740	0 0
Cape of Good Hope.	"	2,000	0 0	1,740	0 0
Gold Coast.	"	5,000	0 0	4,350	0 0
Natal.	"	1,000	0 0	860	0 0
New Zealand.	"	1,000	0 0	860	0 0
Do.	"	2,000	0 0	1,740	0 0
Queensland.	"	2,000	0 0	1,740	0 0
Sierra Leone.	"	2,000	0 0	1,740	0 0
South Australia.	"	4,000	0 0	3,380	0 0
South Nigeria.	"	1,200	0 0	1,200	0 0
(Lagos).	"	8,300	0 0	8,341	10 6
Trinidad.	"	4,000	0 0	4,082	10 0
Do.	"	5,000	0 0	4,746	15 0
Victoria.	"	3,000	0 0	4,734	8 6
Western Australia.	"	2,100	0 0	2,010	2 10
		£ 43,800.	0 0	£ 41,369	10 0

Amount repaid by Viceroy of Wuchang and placed to credit of Special Fund. £11,000.

Designation of Debt or Loan.	Legal Authority.	Amount Outstanding.
Hongkong 3 1/2 In-Ordinance 1 & 2 of 1893.	Ordinance Nos. 1 of 1893 & 11 of 1895.	£341,791 15.1 Sterling.
Hongkong 3 1/2 In-Ordinance 1 & 2 of 1893.	Do.	£1,143,931.1.4 Sterling.

JAPANESE "BOY" AS FORGER.

IMPUDENT ATTEMPT UPON A NAVAL OFFICER'S BANK ACCOUNT.

Sesuki Tanoi, a Japanese, was arraigned on a charge of uttering a forged cheque for \$200 on the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on Wednesday. A. C. Putley, a clerk in the bank, said the defendant presented the cheque at about 1.30 p.m. on Wednesday. He received, entered and cancelled it, as at first sight it looked genuine. But on examining it more closely and comparing the signature, C. E. L. Thomas, with that contained in the Bank's specimen signature book, he found that it did not tally in several particulars. C. E. L. Lloyd Thomas, called, was shown the cheque before the Court, and stated that the signature thereon was not his. The number on the cheque corresponded to the number of one which had been removed from his book. Defendant had been engaged as witness "boy" for a little over a month. After hearing further evidence his Worship committed defendant for trial at the Criminal Sessions.

COMPANIES.

HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the shareholders in this Company was held in the City Hall on March 20th. The Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson presided and there were also present Sir Paul Chater, Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Messrs. A. Haupt, A. J. Raymond, D. M. Nissim, N. A. Siebs, E. Goets, G. H. Medhurst, A. G. Wood and C. R. Lensmann (directors). Hon. Mr. F. Osborne (secretary), Messrs. T. F. Hough, J. Orange, J. W. Kew, F. E. Ellis, E. J. Hughes, G. de Champeaux and Ho Fook.

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, with your permission I propose to take the report and accounts as read. The recollection of the damage done by the fierce storm that passed over the Colony in September last must be fresh in your mind, and it is therefore unnecessary for me to picture for you the wreckage and destruction of our property as seen on the afternoon of the 18th of that month. Your Directors desired to place before you a full statement of the actual loss caused by the typhoon, or typhoons, and the figures now submitted, which have been the subject of much consideration, will, we trust, have made the position quite clear to you. To carry on the current work it has been necessary to provide additional lighters, and the rebuilding of the wharves will commence on the arrival of the ironwork, now shortly due. We propose at present to rebuild only one of the large piers, and with a view to economy, are utilising as much of the old wood as is fit for the purpose. As you are well aware it has been our custom to appropriate annually from profits, large sums to write down the book values of your various assets, and the wisdom of this policy is now more than demonstrated. Under the circumstances your Directors have not considered it necessary to make any provision for the wharves and lighters totally destroyed, as the value of those remaining far exceeds their book value. You will observe that we have to provide out of the earnings of the current year a further sum of \$52,000 for actual losses, and I trust that never again may our Colony or Company experience such a disastrous storm. Turning to the Accounts, there is nothing that occurs to me requiring special reference, but you will be pleased to note that working shows an increased profit of \$16,940.07 after payment of \$8,140.28 for miscellaneous typhoon expenditure. I desire to express the Board's appreciation of the cheerful, energetic and capable manner in which our Staff, in face of great difficulties, continued the Company's business with practically no interruption, and with, we trust, but slight inconvenience to its constituents. Before moving the adoption of the report, I shall be pleased to answer any question that any shareholder may wish to ask.

There being no questions, the report and statement of accounts was adopted on the motion of the CHAIRMAN seconded by Mr. J. ORANGE.

Mr. HUGHES moved, and Mr. HOUGH seconded, that the retiring directors, Messrs. Goets and A. G. Wood, be re-elected. Carried.

On the motion of Mr. Ho Fook, seconded by Mr. Kew, Messrs. W. H. Potts and A.O.D. Gordin were re-appointed auditors.

The CHAIRMAN: Dividend warrants may be had on application. I hope you will stay a few minutes longer to attend the extraordinary meeting.

An extraordinary general meeting was held afterwards.

The SECRETARY having read the notice,

The CHAIRMAN said:—The notice which has just been read explains the alteration in the Articles of Association you are asked to approve. I beg to propose the first resolution.

Mr. J. ORANGE seconded, and the resolution was carried.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the second resolution, making the changes in the articles in accordance with the notice.

Mr. ORANGE seconded and it was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Thank you, gentlemen, for your attendance.

HONGKONG ICE CO. LD.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Hongkong Ice Co. Ltd. was held at the offices of Messrs Jardine, Matheson and Co. on the 21st March for the purpose of making certain alterations in the Articles of Association. Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson presided, others present being Messrs. W. Parlana (manager), R. G. Munro (secr. wry), C. H. Ross, A. Brooke Smith, T. S. Forrest, J. Barton, A. Rodger, C. W. May, Ho Fook and Lo Cheung-shui.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting and the resolutions to be submitted as published.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the notice just read explains the object of this meeting, and I should be much obliged if shareholders would propose and second the two resolutions before you for approval.

It was proposed by Mr. BARTON and seconded by Mr. Ho Fook that the Articles of Association be altered in accordance with the notice just read. Carried.

Mr. BROOKE SMITH proposed that the changes in the Company's Articles, just approved in accordance with the notice read, should come into force and take effect from and including the 1st May, 1907.

Mr. RODGER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—These resolutions will require to be confirmed at another meeting. I thank you very much, gentlemen, for your attendance.

LUZON SUGAR REFINING CO. LD.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-fifth annual general meeting, to be held at the offices of the General Agents, at 12.15 p.m., on Wednesday, March 27th, reads:—

The General Agents beg to submit to shareholders their report on the Company's business for the year 1906, with a statement of accounts to 31st December last.

For the greater part of the year the refinery at Malabon was kept working, but at a reduced melt, and owing to the low prices ruling everywhere the margin of profit on working was small.

After allowing for Interest and Loss in exchange the sum at debit of profit and loss account is \$138,523.01.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

This consists of Messrs. A. G. Wood and H. P. White, who offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. A. R. Lowe, who offers himself for re-election.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,

General Agents.

Hongkong, 2nd March, 1907.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st December, 1906.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital, 7,000 shares, of \$10 each		700,000	00
Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s current account 1906		112	33
Accounts payable		2,209	19
		\$894,321.52	
ASSETS.		\$	c.
Property account, as per last account		629,642	43
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation		14,240	14
Cash in hand		907	19
Raw and refined sugar, &c.		80,968	65
Coal, charcoal, stores, &c.		32,678	43
Fire insurance, unexpired premia		1,147	77
Accounts receivable		123	90
		7,978	51
Profit and loss account		138,523	01
		\$894,321.52	

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

For the year ended 31st December, 1906.

	\$	c.
To balance from last year	132,588	10
To interest	12,149	73
To loss in exchange	11,189	64
To auditor's fee	50	00
	\$155,977	47
By gain on working	17,454	46
By balance	138,523	01
	\$155,977	47

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE CO. LD.

The Report for presentation to the shareholders at the forty-first ordinary meeting to be held at the Company's Offices at 12.30 p.m. on Saturday, April 13th, reads:—

The Board has now to lay before the shareholders a balance sheet containing a summary of the property and liabilities of the Company on the 31st December 1906 and a statement of accounts to the same date.

1905 Account, May to December.—The amount paid as compensation to members of the Staff who retired in consequence of the arrangements made with the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited, was \$161,685.97. Against this the Board has transferred the sum of \$150,000 from Reserve Fund leaving \$11,685.97 to be paid out of Working Account. After payment also of the interim dividend of \$3 per share and the bonus of 15 per cent to contributors passed at the last annual meeting, there remains a balance of \$41,342.88 as per annexed statement. This sum the Board recommends should be carried to Underwriting Suspense Account to close the account for the eight months ending 31st December 1905.

1906 Account.—The balance of Working Account on the 31st December 1906 was \$933,412.89 as per annexed statement. The Board recommends that an interim dividend of \$3 per share be paid to shareholders out of interest, absorbing \$72,000 and that a bonus of 20 per cent be paid to contributors, absorbing about \$125,000 and that the remainder be carried forward.

DIRECTORS.

Since the last General Meeting Mr. H. W. Slade has resigned his seat on leaving the Colony, and Mr. A. G. Wood has joined the Board. Mr. Wood's appointment will be submitted for the confirmation of shareholders. Messrs. E. Ormiston and C. R. Lenzmann retire by rotation and offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS.

The annexed accounts have been audited by Messrs. H. U. Jeffries and A. R. Lowe who offer themselves for re-election.

A. G. WOOD,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1907.

BALANCE SHEET.

On the 31st December, 1906

Dr.		\$	c.
To Capital 21,000 shares of \$5 each		105,000	00
\$2,000,000 upon which \$25 per share called and paid up		50,000	00
To Reserve fund		8,500	00
To Unclaimed bonus and dividend		12,000	00
To Exchange fluctuation account		85,301	12
To Investment fluctuation account		69,319	76
To Working account 1905, balance		41,342	88
To Working account 1906, balance		933,412	89
To Reinsurance fund		228,717	18
To Underwriting suspense account		217,691	37
To Sundry creditors		37,444	50
		\$2,980,521	46

Cr.		\$	c.
By Cash on current account at Hongkong		51,313	71
By Cash on deposit with banks in Hongkong, Shanghai and Yokohama		184,715	09
By Amount invested in Mortgages, Debentures and other Securities in Hongkong, Shanghai and Yokohama		1,125,063	70
By Amount invested in London, viz:			
Deposited in Banks		156,500	00
Leasehold property		23,779	17
Travancore Tea Estate Co.		1,000	00
		281,279	17
By Amount invested in Australia, viz:			
Deposited in Banks		24,500	00
Other investments		3,275	00
		27,775	00
By Amount at debit of branches and agencies		287,611	84
By Sundry debtors		94,119	98
By Bills receivable		156,527	61
		\$2,980,521	46

WORKING ACCOUNT, MAY TO DECEMBER 1906.

On 31st December, 1906.

	\$	c.
To Balance brought forward	599,294	17
To Exchange	137	64
	\$599,431	81
By Reinsurance, return premium and commissions	69,363	17
By Charges, &c.	11,060	11

By Directors' and auditors' fees at Head Office and branches	10,394	37
By Losses	324,783	80
By Compensation to staff	\$161,685	97
Less transferred from reserve fund	150,000	00
	11,834	07

By Interim dividend of \$3 per share	427,889	41
By Bonus of 15 per cent to contributors	72,000	00
By Balance	57,192	52
	41,342	83

\$599,431.81

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1906.

On 31st December, 1906.

To Net premium from 1st January to 31st December, 1906	\$	c.
	1,740,825	36
To Interest	118,391	04
To Transfer fees	656	00

	\$1,857,873	40
By Agency commissions	14,899	45
By Head office, branches and agency charges	193,299	26

By Remuneration to directors, committees and auditors	13,481	17
By Losses and claims paid	662,636	88
By Furniture written off	10,441	85
By Balance	933,412	89

\$1,857,873.41

CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LD.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-ninth annual general meeting, to be held at the offices of the General Agents, at 11.30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 27th, reads:—

The General Agents beg to submit to shareholders their Report on the Company's business for the year 1906, with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December last.

For the greater part of the year supplies of sugar were poured on to the various markets from Java and Japan largely in excess of requirements, competition was keen, and prices gradually declined. Work at the Refineries had to be reduced, and during the last six months the output reached a very low point.

Inclusive of \$40,419.68 brought forward from the year 1905 the sum at credit of Profit and Loss Account is \$169,218.47 which the General Agents and Consulting Committee recommend should be appropriated as follows, viz:—

To pay a Dividend of \$3 per Share \$18,000.00

.. Carry forward to next a/c. 9,218.47

\$169,218.47

CONSULTING COMMITTEE:

This consists of Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. A. G. Wood, A. J. Raymond and F. Maitland, who offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITORS:

The Accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. H. Potts and H. Percy Smith, who offer themselves for re-election.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, 4th March, 1907.

BALANCE SHEET.

One Year to 31st December, 1906.

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Paid-up capital		2,000,000	00
Equalization of dividend fund		450,000	00
Repairs and renewals account		54,848	61
Raw sugar reserve account		315,741	56
Sundry creditors		1,349,790	73
Balance of profit and loss account		169,218	47
		\$4,371,599	37

ASSETS		\$	c.
Property account consisting of:			
East Point Refinery			
Howington Refinery			
Swatow Refinery			
Hongkong Distillery			
Cash		2,072	13
Raw and refined sugar, &c.		2,124,348	32
Spirits and rum, &c.		7,487	44
Charcoal, coal, stores, &c.		205,366	52
Sundry debtors		47,867	57
Shipments		\$174,146	04
Less advances		21,238	08
		153,047	96

PROPERTY ACCOUNT.

To balance on 31st December, 1905 1,531,209.03

By balance on 31st December, 1906 1,531,209.01

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	\$	c.
To commission	10,874	80
To remuneration of consulting committee	2,500	00
To auditors' fees	750	00
To interest	21,672	75
	35,796	55

To net balance	169,218.47
	\$208,015.42
By balance brought forward from last year	40,419.68
By gain on working	167,565.74
	\$208,015.42

CHINA PRINTING CO., LD.

The annual meeting of shareholders of this company was held at Shanghai on March 13th. H.W.G. Hayter (Chairman) said the shareholders would see by the report and accounts which had been in their hands for some time, that the record for the past year was a good one. The net profit on Working Account amounted to \$10,309.42. The balance at the credit of Profit and Loss account at the end of 1905 was \$10,421.47, which the directors proposed to deal with as follows: To write off, preliminary expenses, \$4,534.90, machinery, plant, furniture and fittings, \$1,968.91 and to carry forward to new account \$3,908.67. The profits for the year equalled 20 per cent of the paid-up capital. That he considered was a good showing for the limited capital of the company. With their present facilities they would, no doubt, be able to show a good increase for this year. Their machinery had all been overhauled on entering the new premises in Haskell Road and the reported condition was very satisfactory. The new premises were large and in every way suitable and would place them in a favourable position to compete in business. Although the record for last year was so good the directors had decided not to pay a dividend owing to the extraordinary expenses incurred by entering the new premises. There were also expenses such as lighting, etc., for which allowance must be made, and it was, therefore, deemed advisable in the best interests of the company to withhold the dividend and thereby place the company on an absolutely sound basis. No questions were asked and the Chairman proposed, Mr. Wattie seconded, and it was carried that the report and accounts be accepted.

ANGLO-FRENCH LAND INVESTMENT CO., LD.

The first Annual General Meeting of this company was held at Shanghai, on March 13th. Mr. C. R. Burkill (Chairman) said the accounts themselves called for very little comment, except that he would like to explain the item for charges, which seemed rather heavy, but was owing to printing expenses incidental to the formation of the company. These expenses could not be helped, but next year he hoped they would be smaller. The other figures corresponded with those in the prospectus. The buildings were in good state of repair. Some had been destroyed by fire and replaced by buildings of a better class. One block was being rebuilt on terms very favourable to the company. There were only two undeveloped pieces of land; one would be developed before the end of the year and the other within eighteen months' time. He would be pleased to answer any questions.

There being no questions the following resolutions were carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. Gilbert Davies, seconded by Mr. C. R. Burkill that the report and accounts as presented be accepted.

Proposed by Mr. Holliday, seconded by Mr. Gilbert Davies: that the directors be authorized to pay a dividend of Tls. 6 per share.

Proposed by Mr. Bridon, seconded by Mr. C. R. Burkill: that Mr. Gilbert Davies be re-elected a director of the company.

Proposed by Father Lorando, seconded by Mr. C. Patrel: that Messrs. Lowe and Bingham be re-elected auditors of the company.

The Chairman said dividend warrants would be posted that evening.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

We learn that a conditional agreement for amalgamation has been made by the Hongkong Steam Waterboat Co. Ltd. and the Union Waterboat Co. Ltd., and that the former will go into voluntary liquidation. Mr. E. G. Barrett will be the Liquidator.

THE SHANGHAI POLICE FORCE.

At the inquest on Constable Morrow, whose murder was reported in our telegrams, the Coroner (Mr. J. C. E. Douglas) said that the verdict in this case would be one of wilful murder against some persons or person unknown. He could not close this inquest without saying a word on behalf of the deceased and of the other members of the rank and file of the Municipal police. He thought the occasion of Constable Morrow's death, attacking as he did, unarmed, a crowd of armed roughs, the only white man that night on duty in the whole of the West Hongkew District, a suitable occasion to call attention to the manner in which those responsible for good order in the Settlement seemed to take their responsibilities in the matter of the proper policing of this Settlement. He wished to put on record his opinion that they did not seem to realize the magnitude of the present police problem here. During the whole of 1905 he had occasion in this Court frequently to call attention to what he considered the comparative uselessness of the Indian branch of the police force. At the Ratepayers' meeting in 1906, when the question of the increasing of the Indian branch of the force came up, Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, the Crown Advocate, spoke in no unmeasured terms against that increase. His suggestions were opposed on the grounds of expense by the representatives of a community which paid just 10 per cent rates and no other taxes whatever! Contrast this for a moment with the 40 per cent rates in London in addition to income and other taxes. It was suggested by Mr. Wilkinson that, say, 300 white men would be as equally efficient as 1,000 Indians in quelling a riot, if one arose, and they would be much more useful in ordinary times for policing the Settlement. His opinions were not adopted. During his (the Coroner's) absence in England there was a riot among the Indian police force here, and this community which had adopted the Indian—he supposed, being a commercial community, the argument that would be cheaper appealed to them—had to call in the aid of blue-jackets to assist in policing their own police, and appeal to this Court to help them. He only wished to call attention to this because he did not believe that they understood what now had to be done for the proper policing of the settlement. Only that morning he had read in the leading article of a paper that he supposed was meant to represent the feelings of the community that by the advent of 250 more Indians matters would be put straight instead of being made worse. The Settlement had doubled itself within the last five years, and no attempt had been made to provide an adequate police force to meet its increased needs. He said deliberately that the police force was starved; that it was starved in men; that it was starved in money; and that it was starved in the native detective department. The Municipal Council expected to get competent and honest native detectives at salaries beginning at \$15 per month. Above all the police force was starved in proper management. There were no proper competent commissioned officers who understood their work, or who understood or possessed the confidence of their men, and made them feel that, whilst having the most difficult police problem to take in hand of any place in the world, they were satisfied and able to meet the wishes of the community. That this was not the feeling of the present police force he had every opportunity of knowing.

The following special minute of the meeting of the 14th March, 1907, is ordered for publication:—

With reference to the observations which the Coroner is reported to have made, in delivering the verdict in the case of P. C. Morrow's murder, the Council makes the following comment:

H. M. Consul-General has co-operated with and assisted the Council in the negotiations for the increase of the Indian Branch of the Police Force, and the Judge of H. M. Supreme Court has assisted in the maintenance of good order among the Indian constables, during the past year; it may, therefore, be supposed that, were the Coroner's wholesale condemnation of Indians as useful policemen justifiable, the matter would have been brought

to the Council's attention before this, in an official and authoritative manner.

The remarks which were made in the Police Court during 1905 in reference to the comparative uselessness of the Indian Police have not been brought to the Council's notice, nor has the present Police Magistrate taken occasion to address the Council on the subject of any inefficiency on the part of members of the Force.

Mr. Wilkinson, speaking at the last Ratepayers' Meeting, was at the pains to disassociate himself from his official position as Crown Advocate, and particularly stated that he acted only as a Ratepayer.

The comparison which the Coroner draws between the position of the Settlement now and five years ago, in respect to its size and the proportionate size of the Police Force, is the result of a misapprehension. The population at the end of 1901 was 7,000 Foreigners and 350,000 Natives. It is to-day 12,000 Foreigners and 475,000 Natives. The Foreign Police Force in 1901 had a membership of 77 and it is at present 114. From these figures it is apparent that the proportion of Foreign Police is greater per head of the population than it was five years ago. The statement that no attempt has been made to meet increasing needs is thus incorrect. The numbers in the other branches of the Force show increase from the end of December, 1901 to the same date in 1906, from 168 to 201 Indians, and from 571 to 753 Chinese.

In respect to the pay drawn by the Force, especially by the Native Branch, it may be supposed that the Council is best competent, by reason of experience and knowledge of local conditions, to judge of its adequacy.

The present position in regard to the management of the Force, and to its officers, is one which the Council considers it inadvisable to discuss at this juncture, but there is no question that the difficulties of the problem presented to those responsible for this important work, are not facilitated by such utterance as that under notice.

KULANGSU (AMOI) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Kulangsu (Amoy) Municipal Council, held at the Board Room, on the 26th February 1907.

Present:—Messrs. W. H. Wallace (Vice-chairman), C. A. V. Bowra, A. F. Gardiner, W. Kruse, the Health Officer and the Secretary.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

2. A letter is read from the Senior Consul forwarding an extract from a despatch from the Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps at Peking referring to the interpretation of Clause 4 of the Land Regulations for the Settlement of Kulangsu. The Diplomatic Corps does not uphold the decision of the Consular Body at this port concerning the qualification of voters under Clause 4 of the Land Regulations which was communicated to the Municipal Council in Mr. Uyeno's letter of the 23rd February 1906.

The Secretary is instructed to publish the Diplomatic Corps decision in the "Amoy Gazette" and also to send round an "Express."

3. Letter is read from Fook Tai Cheong, a comprador and storekeeper of Kulangsu, requesting permission to buy meat from the Amoy side when no meat is to be obtained in the Settlement.

The Secretary is instructed to inform him that the Council see no reason for altering the Regulations forbidding the sale of meat on the Island of Kulangsu which has not been slaughtered in the Municipal Slaughter house and bearing the municipal "chop," at the same time pointing out that the Council realize that at times there may be a shortage in the supply of beasts for killing, but that compradores and meat sellers can easily overcome this difficulty by combining together and importing sufficient cattle into this Settlement for slaughter at the Municipal Slaughter house, to meet the requirements of their customers. The Council are prepared to receive and consider at any time, suggestions for the improvement in the supply of cattle for slaughtering on the Island, so as to prevent any inconvenience to traders and their customers.

(Signed) FRED B. MARSHALL,
Chairman.

COMMERCIAL.

OPIUM

Hongkong, March 20th.

Quotations are:—Allowance net to 1 catty.			
Malwa New	\$850	to	per picul
Malwa Old	\$900	to	do.
Malwa Older	\$930	to	do.
Malwa Very Old	\$970	to	do.
Persian Fine Quality	\$600	to	do.
Persian Extra Fine	\$700	to	do.
Patna New	\$962½	to	per chest
Patna Old	—	to	do.
Benares New	\$937½	to	do.
Benares Old	—	to	do.

COAL.

Messrs. Hughes and Hough, in their Coal Report of 21st March, state that 20 steamers are expected at Hongkong with a total of 71,400 tons of coal. Since March 11th, 13 steamers have arrived with a total of 47,200 tons of coal.

Small transactions are reported in Japanese at slightly improved rates: there is a small enquiry for Australian but no stock available. Other kinds neglected.

Quotations:—

Cardiff	\$14.00 to 15.00	ex-ship, nominal.
Australian	\$10.00 to \$11.00	ex-ship, nominal.
Yuhari Lump	\$12.00	nominal.
Milki Lump	\$10.00	nominal.
Moji Lump	\$6.00 to \$8.00	ex-ship, steady.
Moji Unscreened	\$6.00 to \$7.00	ex-ship, steady.
Akaike Lump	\$7.75 to \$8.50	steady.
Bengal	\$9.00 to \$9.50	nominal.

RAW COTTON.

HONGKONG, 22nd March.—Good business at a slight rise. Stock about 850 bales.

Bombay	\$17.50 to \$20.50	per picul.
Bengal (New), Rangoon	—	—
and Dacca	20.50 to 22.50	..
Shanghai and Japanese	25.00 to 26.00	..
Tungchow and Ningpo	25.00 to 26.00	..
Reported sales, 650 bales.	—	—

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee in his report, dated Hongkong, 22nd March, states:—A quiet but steady inquiry has been experienced throughout the whole of the past fortnight, and fair sales have been effected at a concession of 50 cents to \$1½ per bale, despite the sharp decline in exchange. Under ordinary circumstances a considerable advance in prices would have taken place, but importers, being greatly influenced by unfavourable advices from Shanghai and having in view the wretched condition of the neighbouring country markets consequent on the prevailing famine in the Southern Provinces, do not believe in any improvement in the position in the near future, and are making most of the demand while it lasts. To add to the gloominess of the situation deliveries are greatly retarded by the heavy discount of 8 or 9 per cent. on silver remittance from the country. Sales of the interval aggregate 5,184 bales, arrivals amount to 7,500, unsold stock estimated at 82,000, and sold but uncleaned stock in second hands 25,000 bales. Local Manufacture:—Sales reported are 350 bales Nos. 10s and 12s at \$83 and \$85 respectively. Japanese Yarn:—About 250 bales No. 20s are reported to have changed hands at from \$126 to \$136. Raw Cotton: New Bengals are in fair request, old being difficult to move, and about 500 bales of the former have found buyers at from \$20½ to \$21½, and 160 bales of the latter at \$18. In Chinese descriptions 200 bales Thoongchow are reported sold at \$23½ to \$24. Stocks 997 bales Indian and 393 bales Chinese. Quotations are Bengals \$18 to \$21½ and China \$22 to \$24½. Exchange on India has continued to decline throughout the fortnight showing a decline of 7 points and closes weak to-day at Rs. 156½ for T 7 and Rs. 157½ for Post. On Shanghai 72½ and on Japan 103½. The undernoted business in imported and local spinning is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 16th instant, viz:—Indian: Market dull and quiet, some 2,700 bales only changing hands at or about previous rates, notwithstanding the heavy decline in exchange. Total estimated stock of unsold and uncleaned yarn 155,000 bales. Japanese:—In good inquiry at a slight reduction in price, total settlements amounting to 2,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 95 to 101 for No. 20s. Local:—No fresh business is reported.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 14th March, 1907, states:—Although we have often been forced to say the same thing before in recent years we must repeat it, with greater emphasis than ever, that importers have not experienced such an utter state of stagnation as now exists in this trade. At this time of the year, especially, there has usually been some enquiry for goods held by first hands to make up for what had not been indented for, or bought for forward delivery at the close of the previous season, but the dealers appear to have supplied themselves with more than they can cope with, judging by the clearances, which cannot be described as more than moderate. It appears that the native holders in Tientsin were rather too grasping when the market opened there after the holidays, and are still asking more than would encourage a brisk consumptive demand, but the greatly diminished credit which the Native banks have been forced into granting, may in time, by lessening the supply, cause enhanced prices to be paid. The curtailment of credit by the banks is making it most uncomfortable for all holders, and it is understood some of the larger dealers are combining to send goods up without that assistance, and are now busy making the necessary arrangements, to the discomfort of their weaker competitors. The situation here is altogether so unsatisfactory that the least said about it will be soonest mended. The actual shipment of cargo by the first steamers that cleared for Newchwang on the 6th instant shows that even the quantity we mentioned last week was too excessive, as only about 1,200 packages really were shipped, and of these the largest proportion is said to consist of fancy makes. It is thought, however, that this may have been the result of the shipments via Dalny to evade the duty, or rather to avail of the drawback of the import duty here that has hitherto been obtainable on goods going to Manchuria via that Port. It seems to us, however, the reports of shipments via that route to Manchuria, if the Customs returns are to be relied on, are, or were, very greatly exaggerated, the actual quantity returned as being shipped this year so far being only about 600 packages piece goods and yarn. Investigation during the last four months as to the prospects for trade in Newchwang generally have not met with very encouraging results. The country has seen the seat of war for nine years almost continuously and its effects are only just being alleviated. The change from the Russian domination to that of the Japanese is very severely felt, for where the former paid in a most lavish manner for all their requirements without question, the Japanese buy nothing but what is imported from their own country and live just as frugally as the native. The consequence is there is no currency and all transaction have to be done on the transfer system which is most unsatisfactory and cumbersome. There is a strong desire amongst all classes for foreign banks to open branches there in the hope that the actual money and specie would be more plentiful, but the prospects are not at all encouraging as yet, and it is likely they will have to work out their own salvation for another year at least. The report that a stock of fully 60,000 bales of American piece goods remained unconsumed in Manchuria at the close of the season if confirmed will be sufficient to supply the requirements of that class of goods for the next seven or eight months. The dealers in Newchwang lost last year, and the Native banks only just managed to hold their own, two of them, however, have not reopened this year. As long as the Japanese retain control of the railway and grant preferential rates on goods to and from Dalny, and at the same time put obstacles in the way of the Junk traffic, the Newchwang trade will be a dead letter, the only hope being for a new Chinese owned line of rail directly North to the West of the present line. At present the transport service is entirely at the mercy of the Japanese at Dalny, and the new Commissioner of Customs is a young man of that nationality. From this it will be gathered that benefits to foreign trade to be realized by an open Manchuria are not for the near future, but that they will come is undoubted. A recent arrival from the North describes the great migration that is now in progress from Shantung and Chihli of Chinese labourers, who are swarming into Manchuria both by steamer and junk, while thousands are tramping it alongside the railway. The result of their labours will soon be felt, but it will not be this year. At the same time their presence will cause a demand for fresh and further supplies.

Messrs. Ilbert & Co.'s Piece Goods Report is as follows:—The market continues quiet in all its branches, one of the main causes paralysing trade being the great rise in the price of rice which has taken place recently, and which is now very dear in practically all of the important distributing centres, of which the three following are instances:—Ningpo, price of average years, \$3.50, present prices, \$7.50; Shanghai price of average years, \$5.00, present prices, \$8.20; Wuhu, price of average years, Tls. 3.00 present prices, Tls. 5.00. As regards piece goods the nearer outlets are fairly steady in prices, which are barely equal to those ruling prior to Chinese New Year, but there is no desire to buy from first hands except in limited quantities. Newchwang has opened very disappointingly, owing to restricted credit amongst merchants, and shipments going up by first steamer are barely worth recording, being as follows:—English Greys and Whites 300 packages, American Sheetings and Drills 200 packages, Bombay Yarn 100 packages, Fancy goods 600 packages. There has been very little doing with home markets in the interval, prices being on a different level altogether to those now ruling here, and the decline in exchange which has set in is widening the breach.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 22nd March.—The prices ruling are as follows:

COTTON YARN. Prices have further declined about \$1, but subsequently, owing to the heavy drop in exchange, this decline has been recovered and a fair number of bales were put through. Quotations are:—No. 10s at \$70 to \$85; No. 10s at \$96 to \$128, and No. 20s at \$97 to \$140. Arrivals 22,000 bales. Sales 7,000 bales. Bargains 5,000 bales. Unsold stock 62,000 bales.

Bombay	Nos 10 to 20	\$80.00 to \$120.00
English	Nos 16 to 24	140.00 to 145.00
	22 to 24	140.00 to 150.00
	28 to 32	155.00 to 160.00
	38 to 42	165.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS. Market flat. Nothing doing.

	per piece
Grey Satings	7 lbs. \$2.40 to \$2.50
	8 1/2 lbs. 3.00 to 3.70
	9 1/2 lbs. 4.00 to 4.80
White Satings	5 1/2 to 6 rd 2.70 to 2.90
	5 1/2 to 6 1/2 3.00 to 3.20
	6 1/2 to 6 3/4 3.25 to 3.30
	Fine 5.50 to 7.00
	Book-folds 5.00 to 7.75
Victory Lawns	12 yards 0.60 to 1.50
T. cloths	6 lbs 32 in Cordy 2.00 to 2.20
	7 lbs 32 .. 2.25 to 2.75
	6 lbs 32 .. (Mexs) 2.20 to 2.35
	7 lbs 32 .. 2.40 to 3.05
	8 1/2 lbs 32 .. 3.00 to 3.70
Drills, English	40 yds. 1.50 to 7.25
	13 1/2 to 14 1/2

FANCY COTTON. Small sales. Market dull.

	per piece
Turkey Red Shirtings	14 to 18 \$1.80 to \$3.65
	8 lbs 1/2
	per yard
Brooches—Dyed	0.08 to 0.11
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08 to 0.11
Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.22 to 0.42
Velvetons—18 in.	0.10 to 0.22

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk \$0.45 to \$5.00

Woolenies. Small sales. Market dull.

	per yard
Spanish Stripes	Sundry chops \$0.08 to \$0.05
	Gerudin
Habit, Medium & Broad Cloths	1.75 to 3.00
	per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs	\$0.25 to \$0.50
	Assorted 0.40 to 0.65

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

For steamer *Princess Alice*, sailed on 14th Mar. For Smyrna—10 cases essential oil. For Beyruth—50 cases cassia lignea. For Alexandria—100 cases cassia. For Genoa—146 bales raw silk, 8 cases furniture, 1 case cigars. For Trieste—2 cases hats. For Antwerp—120 bales bamboo, 64 bales leaf tobacco, 11 cases preserves, 9 cases blackwoodware, 5 cases chinaware, 1 case cigars. For Antwerp or Bremen—194 bales leaf tobacco. For Amsterdam—13 bales leaf tobacco. For Bremen—202 rolls matting, 15 cases cigars. For Hamburg—2,791 pieces copper, 147 bales feathers, 80 cases essential oil, 50 cases bristles, 50 cases staraniseed, 45 cases blackwoodware, 25 cases human hair, 30 cases chinaware, 20 cases gum elani, 3 cases feathers. For Copenhagen—180 bales feathers. For London—1 case cigars.

Per M. M. Co's s.s. *Tonkin* sailed on the 19th March, 1907. For Marseilles:—261 bales raw silk, 270 bales waste silk, 8 cases silk piece goods, 14 pkgs human hair, 15 cases feathers, 15 cases champagne, 40 cases joss sticks, 27 pkgs provisions, 13 cases ylang ylang oil, 10 cases hats, 18 cases cigars, 10 bales tobacco, 13 pkgs sundries. For Lyons:—658 bales raw silk. For London: 300 bales waste silk.

Per steamer *Stentor*, sailed on 20th March. For Havre:—175 bales canes. For Havre, London or Continent:—50 cases camphor, 20 cases essential oil. For Havre or Continent:—50 cases staraniseed, 10 cases bristles. For London:—100 cases preserves, 72 cases china and blackwoodware, 87 bales feathers, 100 cases soy, 536 bales canes. For Manchester:—120 bales waste silk. For London, Glasgow or Dundee:—100 cases ginger. For London or Continent:—105 bales canes, 250 cases merchandise, 100 bales feathers. For Amsterdam:—50 cases cassia buds, 100 rolls mats. For Rotterdam:—50 cases cassia buds. For Antwerp:—200 bales feathers, 140 bales bamboo scraps, 15 bales canes.

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 22nd March, 1907.—The market has ruled quieter during the week and we have nothing of any importance to report. Rates continue fairly steady generally, but a slight inclination to weakness is still apparent, notwithstanding the pronounced fall in exchange which has taken place during the week. Exchange on London T T 2 1/2, on Shanghai Tls. 72 1/2.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled weaker and small sales have been made at \$890, the market closing with further sellers at that rate. Nationals remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are now enquired for at \$840 and probably a higher rate would be paid were any shares forthcoming. The Society has issued a circular to the holders of cash certificates in connection with the purchase of China Traders Shares, in which it offers \$260 for each certificate with the view of redeeming them. China Traders have been placed at the enhanced value of \$100. Cantons have declined to \$290 with a small sale. Yangtszes have improved to \$162 1/2, and North Chinas have sellers at \$80.

FIRE INSURANCES.—We have no business or changes to report under this heading.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been the medium of a fair business at \$290 1/2, the market closing with further buyers at that rate and with sellers at \$290 1/2. Indos have declined to \$80 with sales and sellers. Shanghai quotes Tls. 56. We have nothing else to report under this heading.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars changed hands during the week at \$118, and with a small unsatisfied demand close at the enhanced rate of \$120. Luzons are unchanged.

MINING.—Charbonnages are wanted in a small way at \$440. Raubs continue dull with sellers at \$8 1/2 and no sales to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled rather weaker, and after small sales at \$130 close with sellers at that rate. Kowloon Wharves have sellers at \$90 (ex dividend of \$2 1/2 paid on the 20th inst.—a shade weaker). Shanghai Docks during the early part of the week ruled steady at Tls. 103, but advices from Shanghai quote them at Tls. 98, and the market close is dull.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been placed during the week at \$107 1/2 and \$107, closing with buyers at the latter rate. Humphreys have found buyers to some extent at \$11 1/2 and \$11, the market closing firm with further buyers at the latter rate. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

COTTON MILLS.—With the exception of small sales of Ewos at \$73 1/2 we have no business or changes to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Providents have changed hands at \$9. Watsons at \$12, and Green Islands at \$ 9 1/2, the first and last closing with sellers and Watsons with buyers at the rates. Electrics are enquired for at \$15 90, Tramways at \$220 and Leas at \$24 1/2. Steam Waterboats, on the strength of a proposed amalgamation with the Union Waterboat Co., have improved to \$9 1/2 with buyers after sales at \$6 and \$7. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

Quotations are as follows:

COMPANY	PAID UP	QUOTATIONS
Ailandra	\$200	\$120
Banks		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125 1/2	\$880, sales & sel London, £101
National Bank of China		
A Shares	20	\$51
Boji's Asbestos E. A.	125	64, \$7, sellers
China-Borneo Co.		\$12 \$10, sellers
China Light & P. Co.		\$10 \$9 1/2, sellers
China Provident		\$10 \$9, sales & sellers
Cotton Mills		
Ewos	Tls. 50	Tls. 7 1/2
Hongkong		\$10 \$12
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 68
Lao Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 105
Sydney	Tls. 500	Tls. 370
Land & Buildings		
H. & K. Wharf & Co.		\$50 \$90, x d.
H. & W. Dock		\$50 \$130, sales & sel
New Ancey Dock		\$6 1/2 \$12
Shanghai Dock and		
Long Co., Ltd.	Tls. 10	Tls. 98, buyers
Shai & H. Wharf	100	Tls. 23 1/2
Forward & Co., Ltd.		\$2 \$18 1/2, x d.
G. L. & Co., Ltd.		\$10 \$19 1/2, sellers
Hongkong & Co., Ltd.		\$10 \$17 1/2, buyers
Hongkong Electric		\$10 \$6
H. H. L. Tramways		\$100 \$220, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.		\$25 \$118, sellers
Hongkong Ice Co.		\$25 \$240, buyers
Hongkong Refrigeration		\$10 \$21, buyers
H'kong S. Waterworks		\$ 0 \$9 1/2, buyers
Insurance		
Canton	\$50	\$290, sales & sel
China Fire	\$20	\$90, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$100, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$142 1/2, sellers
North China	\$5	Tls. 80, sellers
Union	\$100	\$84 1/2, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$102 1/2, buyers
Land and Buildings		
H'kong Land Invest	\$100	\$107, buyers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$11, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$60	\$37 1/2, buyers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 75	Tls. 101
West Point Building	Tls. 27	Tls. 64
Mining		
Charbonnages	1 - 250	\$140, buyers
Raubs	18 1/2	\$8 25, sellers
Philippine Co.		\$10 \$5
Refineries		
China Sugar	\$100	\$120, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$21, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manch.	\$25	\$18, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$35, sellers
H. Canton & M.	\$15	\$29 1/2, sellers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	\$10	\$80, sales & sel
Shell Transport Co.	\$1	\$1
Star Ferry	\$10	\$20
The New	\$5	\$20, sellers
South China M. Post	\$25	\$25
Steam Laundry	\$5	\$6, buyers
Stores & Dispensaries		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$ 0, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm	\$5	\$8, sellers
Watsons	\$1	\$10, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12, sales & buy
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10, buyers
Do. Founders	\$10	\$120

VERNON & SMYTH Brokers

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co's Share Report for the week ending March 14th, 1907, states: Business has again been restricted to very small lines and there has been no movement in any of the leading stocks. Banks—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks. Two small lots changed hands during the week at \$890 and \$880, exchange 73. The London quotation is £104 x d. The T T rate to-day is 2 1/2. Marine and Fire Insurance.

—No business reported. Hongkong quotes Unions \$855 buyers and Yangtszes are wanted at \$160. Shipping—Indos. No business reported. Shares are offering at Tls. 61 without finding buyers. Shanghai Tugs, ordinary shares are offering at Tls. 51 without finding buyers. Preference shares are still placed at Tls. 50. Docks and Wharves. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. Our market is somewhat easier, and closed with buyers at Tls. 242 1/2 c.d. for the March Settlement. Shanghai Dock & Engineering Co., Ltd. Business was reported during the week at Tls. 106 cash and Tls. 107 March, and towards the end business was done as low as Tls. 105 March. Sugars—No business reported. Mining—No business reported. Kaupings are wanted at Tls. 13. Lands—Shanghai Land Investment Co. Business is reported in the old shares at Tls. 102 and the new shares at Tls. 62 1/2. Anglo-French Land Shares have changed hands at Tls. 106 c.d. Industrial—No business has been reported in any of the Cotton Mill Shares, but they are steady at about quotations. Shanghai Gas Co. Shares have been placed at Tls. 110 and are offering at Tls. 110. Anglo-German Brewery Co. A small lot of shares changed hands at Tls. 78 ex dividend. Matschiappi, Ltd. in Langkat. Shares are quoted at Tls. 270 for the Settlement and Tls. 277 for June. Samatras were dealt in at Tls. 12 1/2 and are closing at Tls. 12 1/2. Miscellaneous.—There are buyers of Flour at Tls. 55. Horse Bazaars are wanted at Tls. 42 and Lumbars at Tls. 97 1/2. Telephones have been sold at Tls. 61 and there are still buyers at this price. Storecard Hotels. Lowlylys are quoted at \$10, and Hall & Holtz are \$2 1/2. Loans and Debentures.—A fair business has been done in all debentures. Municipal 6 per cent debentures are quoted at Tls. 100, Shanghai Land 6 per cent at Tls. 98 1/2, Waterworks 6 per cent debentures at Tls. 98 1/2 and Tls. 98, Shanghai Gas at Tls. 98 1/2, Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf 6 per cent at Tls. 98 1/2, Shanghai Land 5 per cent Tls. 87, and Astor House 8 per cent at Tls. 100.

EXCHANGE

OS. LONDON —	FRIDAY, Mar. 22nd.
Telegraphic Transfer	204
Bank Bills on demand	21 1/2
Bank Bills at 30 days' sight	2 1/2
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	2 1/2
Credits at 4 months' sight	2 2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2 2 1/2
OS. PARIS —	
Bank Bills, on demand	268
Credits 4 months' sight	272 1/2
OS. GERMANY	
On demand	217
OS. NEW YORK —	
Bank Bills, on demand	514
Credits, 60 days' sight	52 1/2
OS. BOMBAY	
Telegraphic Transfer	150 1/2
Bank, on demand	157 1/2
OS. CALCUTTA —	
Telegraphic Transfer	156 1/2
Bank on demand	157 1/2
OS. SHANGHAI —	
Bank, at sight	7 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	7 3/4
OS. YOKOHAMA —	
On demand	103 1/2
OS. MANILA —	
On demand	103 1/2
OS. SINGAPORE —	On demand 11 p.m.
OS. BATAVIA —	On demand 127 1/2
OS. HONG KONG —	On demand 4 p.m.
OS. SAMPON —	On demand 3 1/2 p.m.
OS. B. SOERABOJA —	On demand 68 1/2
SILVER DOLLARS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$ 9.10
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per taal	\$19 7 1/2
BAR SILVER, per oz	30 1/2

FREIGHT.

Messrs. Wharlock & Co's Freight Market Report, dated Shanghai, 14th March, 1907, has the following: There is very little news in our Home and Freight market as regards cargo, and the only item of interest to shippers is the fact that the London Conference Lines have again issued a new tariff, taking effect from the 1st instant placing the Northern Coast Ports and the Yangtze River Ports on the same footing as Shanghai. New Hwang being practically the only port left from which shippers have to pay the local rate to Shanghai themselves. Coastwise tonnage is all fairly well occupied at present on the coast although rates have not quite come up to expectations. Coal freights from Japan are very firm and there is little or no tonnage open for trip-charter as the "Outsiders" are all hanging out for "time."

SHIPPING

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

March—ARRIVALS.

- 17, Arratoon Apar, Brit. str., from Japan.
 17, Japan, British str., from London.
 17, Kaiser Franz Josef I, Austro Hungarian cruiser, from Nagasaki.
 17, Krumstad, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 17, Progress, German str., from Saigon.
 18, Bingo Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 18, Moyune, British str., from Amoy.
 18, Namsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 18, Rivers Clyde, Brit. str., from Barry Dock.
 18, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
 18, Tonkin, French str., from Shanghai.
 18, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., from Manila.
 18, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 19, Amara, British str., from Saigon.
 19, Cheongshing, British str., from Tientsin.
 19, Chi uen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 19, Choising, German str., from Bangkok.
 19, Dovri, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 19, Haitan, British str., from Coast Port.
 19, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 19, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 19, Norseman, British yacht, from Manila.
 19, Petchaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
 19, Providence, Nor. str., from Haiphong.
 19, Sashu Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
 19, Tjiliwong, Dutch str., from Batavia.
 19, Yochow, British str., from Shanghai.
 20, Baddi Maru, Japanese str., from Kobe.
 20, Fri, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
 20, Hopsang, British str., from Hongay.
 20, Joshin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
 20, Kelgan, British str., from Amoy.
 20, Oanfa, British str., from Singapore.
 20, Pronto, Norwegian str., from Hoilow.
 20, Siberia, Am. str., from San Francisco.
 20, Spartiate H.M.S. British Cruiser, from Shanghai.
 20, Tamba Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 20, Woolwich, British str., from Salina, Ac.
 21, Avaton, Norwegian str., from Singapore.
 21, Childar, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 21, Lothian, British str., from Kutchinotsu.
 21, Lowther Castle, British str., from Japan.
 21, Loyall, German str., from Java.
 21, Macduff, British str., from Rangoon.
 21, Macedonia, British str., from Shanghai.
 21, Romany, British str., from Singapore.
 21, Totomi Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.

March—DEPARTURES.

- 18, Amberton, British str., for Hamburg.
 18, Chowfa, German str., for Swatow.
 18, Daiya Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 18, Duffar, Norwegian str., for Swatow.
 18, Haitan, French str., for Hoilow.
 18, Japan, British str., for Shanghai.
 18, Mercury, Russian str., for Nagasaki.
 18, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 18, Nesin, British str., for Singapore.
 18, Nichipqi Maru, Japanese str., for Talien.
 18, Quar, German str., for Saigon.
 18, Raleigh, U.S. Cruiser, for Manila.
 18, Shantung, British str., for Singapore.
 18, Varg, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 18, Taisang, British str., for Saigon.
 18, Wakamatsu Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 19, Blue Cross, British str., for Yokohama.
 19, Heliotas, Dutch str., for Amoy.
 19, Japan, British str., for Shanghai.
 19, Kiukiang, British str., for Shanghai.
 19, Merapi, Dutch str., for Amoy.
 19, Radnorshire, British str., for Kobe.
 19, Tango Maru, Japanese str., for Shanghai.
 19, Tean, British str., for Manila.
 19, Tonkin, French str., for Europe.
 19, Ulv, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 19, Wuhu, British str., for Saigon.
 20, Alger, French cruiser, for Saigon.
 20, Bingo Maru, Japanese str., for Singapore.
 20, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Canton.
 20, Dagay, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 20, Fro de, French destroyer, for Saigon.
 20, Fukushima Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 20, Hangsang, British str., for Canton.
 20, Igbee Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
 20, Moyune, British str., for Singapore.
 20, Persia, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
 20, Tranquebar, Danish str., for Singapore.
 20, Victoria, Swedish str., for Saigon.
 20, Waishing, British str., for Saigon.
 20, Yangwoo, Korean str., for Kutchinotsu.
 20, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 20, Yochow, British str., for Canton.
 21, Cheongshing, British str., for Canton.

- 21, Chowtai, German str., for Swatow.
 21, Eatin, German str., for Chafoo.
 21, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 21, Kwongtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 21, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 21, Shaohsing, British str., for Shanghai.
 21, Tjiliwong, Dutch str., for Yokohama.
 21, Totomi Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Yuensang, from Manila, Miss Seloner, Miss Davis, Miss Remedios.
 Per Amara, from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Rhodes.
 Per Namsang, from Calcutta, Mr. and Mrs. Munro, Miss McClea, Captain Mathewson, Mr. C. Dowling, and Mr. C. H. Lougher.
 Per Haitan, from Coast Ports, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Wilzer, Dr. & Mrs. Riddell, Mrs. Morgan, Miss Janet Palmer, Messrs. Magill, Cooper, Pohnalla and Selmer.
 Per Changsha, from Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Baker, Capt. and Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. and Mrs. Olsen, Messrs. Harker and Doyle, Miss Olsen, Miss M. Olsen, Mr. J. B. Wise, Dr. Andrews.
 Per Japan, from London, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Callow and three children, Miss A. E. Woodruff, Lieut. Col. H. N. Dumbleton, Lieut. E. W. Isaacson, for Shanghai, Mrs. E. Fuller and two children and infant, Messrs. S. A. Offer, H. Reese, for Yokohama, Mr. J. B. Bunn, from Singapore for Hongkong, Miss Worlock, Messrs. A. B. Blunn, Colledge, W. Brewster, and for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Wychel.

Per Rubi from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Rudman and child, Mr. and Mrs. Freeman, Mr. and Mrs. Blount, Mr. and Miss Shields, Mrs. and Miss Johnston, Dr. and Mrs. A. P. Preston and child, Mrs. Lyons, Miss Freeman, Major H. P. Nevill, Messrs. A. W. Robert, O. E. Morgan, Guggenheim, A. Guenez, I. Ignat, Enlis Mappa, F. B. Ingersoll, M. A. Brown, James Chambers, F. Niblock, G. H. Snowden, R. D. Alsop, Stone, H. Humphreys, H. M. Gallagher and J. C. Campbell.

Per Tonkin, for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Mr. Maurice Tournier, Mr. and Mrs. R. Andre and 2 children, Mr. Djandiroff, from Shanghai, Mr. Const. Mertens, Capt. Claudi, Capt. Mayer, Mrs. Boninais and daughter, Mr. Gaurrit, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. and Mrs. Lee-Famine, Mrs. Hunt and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Doy, Mr. Delmas, Louis, Mr. Pottax, Wm. Wada Kamer, Messrs. M. Robie, Ponce, Mazon, Courtian, B. Olow, Cotton, Scribaldi, Mauzet, Brousseaud, Mijazaki, Joly, Bonvallet, Lambert, Chapeaux, Lereimon, Picault, Augustin, for Singapore, from Shanghai, Messrs. Chiyosham and Suzuki, Miss Take, Miss Tosa, Miss Hedu, Miss Yamashita, Messrs. Mazaoff, R. Katz and R. Kowitz, Mrs. Lucia Fernandez, Messrs. Chatamall and Thomas, Miss S. Okabe, Miss Oki, Mr. de Deluoc, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, L. Abbe Collin, from Kobe, Messrs. G. Butler, de Gout, T. Tosabe, from Shanghai, Mr. M. Ribot, Mr. Silva, Mr. A. Forbes, Mrs. W. Ribot, Messrs. W. Philipps, Nicodime Bouvier, and Cook.

Per Siberia, from San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bardin, Miss M. L. Ballantyne, Mr. B. F. Campbell, Miss E. D. Fisher, Miss M. K. Forgan, Mr. F. C. French, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Hungerford and maid, Mrs. F. H. Kennedy, Mrs. C. N. Kendrick, Miss K. P. Luce, Rev. H. C. Mabie, Miss C. L. Mabie, Miss L. E. Thatcher, Miss L. G. Thatcher, Col. S. G. Murphy and servants, Miss Dorothy Vestry, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Quinby, Miss May Quinby, Messrs. C. B. Sonder, C. E. Sprague and R. C. Staud, from Honolulu, Mr. and Mrs. J. Bickholz and maid, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Bratnaber, Messrs. F. M. Barr & A. H. S. Chuck, from Yokohama, Capt. and Mrs. U. R. Harris, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Thompson, Miss Thompson, Mr. K. Kaidza, Miss M. Patten, Miss M. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. John Dunn, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Dunwoody, Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Merrifield, from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. L. Schoenfeld, Mr. H. A. Schoenfeld, Mr. and Mrs. John Ryan, Miss Ryan, Messrs. W. M. Moll and L. G. C. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Dornbecker, Miss Doerabacker, Mrs. S. B. Forber, Mrs. J. Gardner, Mr. Wm. Morris, from Nagasaki, Mr. and Mrs. A. Adams, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Newsome, Messrs. J. A. Higgins, P. La Grange and A. R. de Bore.

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DEPARTED.

Per Hong Kong, from Hongkong, for London, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Monteith, Mr. and Mrs. A. Denison, Messrs. C. H. Gale and E. Grant Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Hooper and two children, Mrs. Alair and three children, Miss Carnochan, Messrs. R. Tanohara, C. Ohtuka, A. Gibson, J. R. Wood and J. J. Mahlmann, Miss Mahlmann, Mrs. K. Matsui, Mrs. A. Kanbe, Mrs. A. F. White and two children, Mrs. J. C. Thompson, Mrs. F. Smith, Miss Proctor, Mr. and Mrs. M. Kobe, Messrs. K. Nankawa, I. Matuoka, K. Tada, Y. Nakada, E. Kuritani, T. Naguchi, Shelton, E. A. Johnson, R. Sakaki, R. E. Edward, W. Stalkert and Mahta, Mrs. A. Roll, Miss Fisher, Mrs. Burt and child, Mrs. R. E. Edward, Miss G. Bell.

Per Tientsin, from Hongkong, for Seattle, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Stone, Miss M. C. McLeod, Miss Seaman, Messrs. K. Uymir, Nishooka and Emilio Mopa, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Ford, Miss Ford, Miss B. Turner, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Hall, Messrs. D. H. Cooper and N. M. Pickwalls, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Lovine, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rowland and two children, Lieut. Wood, Mrs. H. F. Stone, Miss Kittie Stone, Mr. and Mrs. F. Meyer, Mr. A. Thierry-Mieg, Miss Ethel Goulbourn, Mr. W. Schell, Mrs. Somers, Miss Dorothy Somers, Mr. T. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Edward, Mrs. Castaneda, Mr. E. A. Fowler, Mrs. Button two children and nurse, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. G. Walsh, Mrs. Fernandez, Miss N. Hashimoto, Messrs. L. Samuel, Ogawa, Felix Ribiero and T. Orley.

Per Marseilles, from Hongkong, for London, Miss Coleman, Messrs. E. Burns Pye and W. W. Pelling, Sergeant P. O. Sullivan, M. O. Sullivan and W. Kenda, Mr. and Mrs. Parlano, Miss Aila Parlano, Messrs. W. H. Anderson, W. H. Evans and W. C. Tillery, Lt. R. F. Dill, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Wood, and amab, Mrs. Misses Shields (two), Messrs. J. E. Green and J. J. Watson, for Marseilles, Mr. L. A. M. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith, Mr. J. G. Fernandez, Rev. and Mrs. Wm. Riddell, Mr. A. G. Morris, Capt. R. E. E. Kriekenbeek, Mr. F. B. L. Bowler, Mr. H. F. Carmichael, Mrs. Gibbs, Lt. S. Usher, Lt. F. A. Maclean, Mr. F. B. Smith, Mr. W. H. Patta, Miss Janet Belmer, for Brindisi, Mr. H. W. Roberts, for Gibraltar, Capt. M. de Carvalho, for Bombay, Messrs. M. A. Zanolabalin, A. Nemazi, B. D. Vacha, M. Simmons and J. Hossain, Mrs. E. Elias and infant, Mrs. M. Ebrahim and infant, Mrs. R. Elias and infant, Master R. Elias, for Singapore, Messrs. G. S. Magill, F. Niblock and J. D. S. Anderson, for Port Said, Messrs. J. T. Burr and F. W. Sergeant.

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